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#### **BOOKS ON THE LAKE**

Library Foundation to host acclaimed, best-selling authors at Grosse Pointe Yacht Club

A HAPPIL Y EVER AFTER A Grosse Pointe wedding and love story



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#### VINCENT & SOFIA

Vincent Michael, active 2-year-old, and Sofia Boddy, 7-year-old Montieth student

#### DANNY

Danny Morrison, Grosse Pointe North freshman and aspiring Spartan

#### MICHELLE

Michelle Roberts, owner of **Technical Textile Solutions** and loving mother

**GUY & MARILYN** Guy and Marilyn Doyal, Rivers residents, married 57 years

### CRAIG

Dr. Craig T. Hadgis, orthodontist of Hadgis Orthodontics

### ANDREW

Andrew Delmege, Pointe Expat, regional development officer and proud father

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GROSSE

### On the cover

This photo of Jeff Lee's home in Grosse Pointe Park was taken by professional photographer Donald Schulte. More of his work can be seen at www.donschulte.com and notablegreetings.blogspot.com.

### Where in the Pointes?



Where in the Pointes is this object? On Monday, March 23, we will ask this question on our Facebook wall. The first person to respond with the most specific answer will win a family pass to the Michigan Science Center. Participants MUST wait for the question to be posted by Pointe Magazine. Good luck!

To find us on Facebook, search "Grosse Pointe Magazine"

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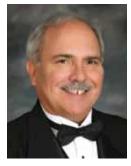
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John Minnis Editor and Publisher

## **POINTE** MAGAZINE

### Spring has sprung!

ell, not exactly. As I write this, it is 3 degrees outside and no sign of let-up! But I am warm in the thought that in two weeks we will be heading south to spend a week in Lakeland, Fla., catching a few Detroit Tigers Spring Training games. I can see the berm, palm trees and the ads on the outfield fence. I feel the warm sun already!

This will likely be the last year for outfield berm denizens as the City of Lakeland and the Tigers prepare to do some major renovation at Joker Marchant Stadium, including a 360-degree concourse.

New flash: This will also likely be the last year the stadium will be

66

Lakeland and the Tigers have announced they are selling naming rights to Joker Marchant Stadium and will split the proceeds. named after Joker Marchant, the former Lakeland parks director who championed the creation of Tiger Town, as the Tigers' Spring Training campus is known. Lakeland and the Tigers have announced they are selling naming rights to the stadium and will split the proceeds.

It's kind of sad for us Spring Training fans who have been going to games at Joker Marchant Stadium for decades. The Detroit Tigers will have called Lakeland its Spring Training home for 80 years when its current contract with the city expires next year. Fortunately, the Tigers and Lakeland have already signed a new 20-year agreement, which will bring the Lakeland-Detroit Tigers relationship to the centennial mark in 2036.

Pointe Magazine is celebrating an anniversary with its May-June issue, Not 100 years, but it will be our Fifth Anniversary since we first published in May-June 2010. Those first five years flew by!

As I am sure all Grosse Pointers will recall, when we first published in 2010, things were not looking too good in the Pointes ... or anywhere! Home values were not just falling, they were plunging. Banks were failing, and many folks here thought it was the end of Grosse Pointe as we knew it. Bad time to start a business! But Grosse Pointers and advertisers immediately loved the magazine. Readers told us Pointe Magazine, with its vibrant color and all-positive stories, came out just at the right time. Many said, and still say, they actually felt better about the Pointes, our community, after having read the magazine. We love to hear that. As I am constantly telling friends and neighbors, the magazine is one of those rare things that actually turned out better than we could have ever hoped. Thank you, Grosse Pointe!

We want Pointe businesses and organizations to celebrate our anniversary with us. If your business or group is celebrating a milestone anniversary this year, please give me a call or e-mail. We would love to feature you in May-June 2015 anniversary issue. It promises to be the best — and largest — issue to date!

We and our fellow businesses and organizations could not survive without the support of you, Grosse Pointe residents, visitors and workers. Please be sure to patronize our many advertisers and organizations that make the Pointes such a great place to live, work and play.

And, as I always say, see you around the Pointe!



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### Meet Vincent

Name: Vincent Michael City: **Grosse Pointe**  Favorite toy or game: Reading

Birthdate & time: July 13, 2012 at 10:05 a.m. Favorite Activity: Vincent loves to play with cars, trucks, and airplanes.

Parents: **Tony and Amanda** 

First words: Ball, Dada and go

Siblings:

Francis. 4

### About Wincent in Mommy's words

Vincent is our active, joyous and curious little boy! He loves being outside no matter what the temperature! We often find him using his imagination while playing with cars and trucks taking them on great adventures. One of his favorite games to play is "bed toss" with his older brother Francis and Daddy. He has taken the book Hop on Pop by Dr. Seuss to a whole different level. Where as if dad is not paying attention he will get a sneak attack! Even though Vincent is rough and tough he loves to snuggle and give hugs. He is guite a talker and loves praying with his family before bedtime. We thank God for Vincent and look forward to seeing what is in store for our spirited little boy!

### Name: Sofia Boddy

Parents: Matt and Gaby Boddy Aae: 7

City: Grosse Pointe

School: Montieth

Interests: Reading, painting, drawing, designing

Siblings: Marcus, 13

### **Favorites**

Food Game Mac & cheese Hide and seek Vacation Family Activity Watch TV France

This Totally Bites!

Outdoor Activity Soccer

Book

School Subject What do you want to be when you grow up? Reading **Fashion designer** 

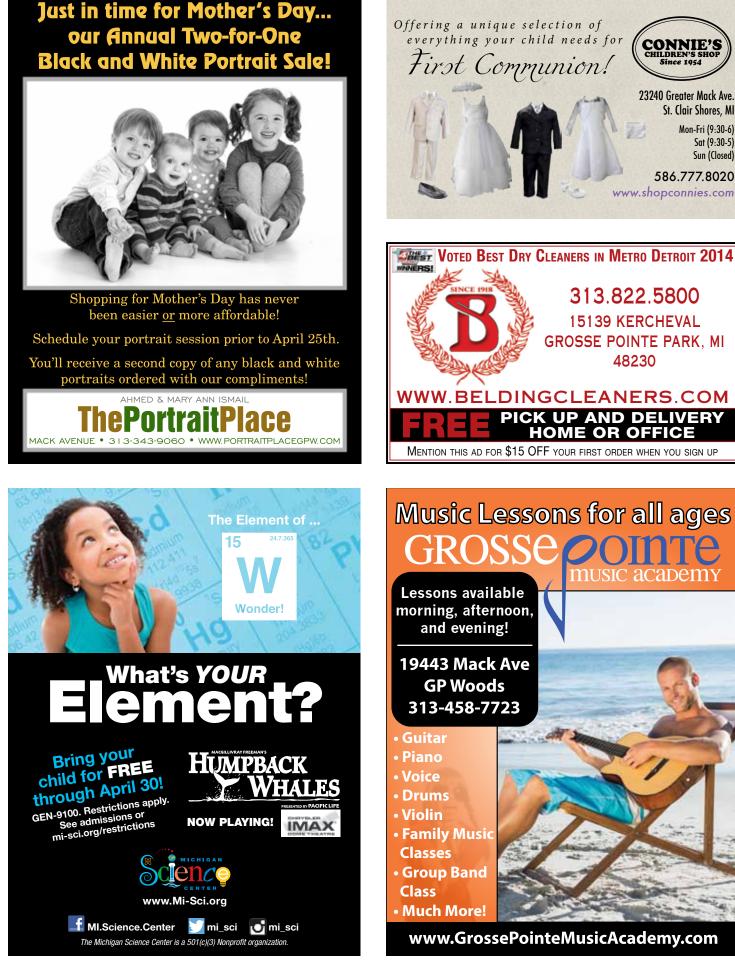
Who do you look up to and why?

Batman. He does not have super power but he gets the job done!

### About Soffa

When asked to describe herself in a few sentences, Sofia said, "My favorite color is pink. My favorite flower is a rose. I love dogs. My favorite season is summer. I love to dance."





Meet Danr Photo by Keith Jackowski

What interesting skill do you possess and what would you like to learn? Comic impersonations; dangling (hockey)

What song on your iPod would people be surprised by?

"Boys 'Round Here" by Blake Shelton

#### If you could have three wishes granted what would they be?

- 1. World peace
- 2. Unlimited, free education for everyone

3. Unlimited money for Catholic Church charities

Where do you see yourself in five years?

Attending Michigan State University

What did you want to be as a child and what do you want to be now? Baseball player; a career in the Sciences NameDanny MorrisonAge15CityGrosse Pointe WoodsSchoolGrosse Pointe NorthParentsScott and Christine Morrison

### Danny's Favorites

**Music Artist** Kendrick Lamar **TV Show** The Walking Dead Movie Forrest Gump Actor Tom Hanks **School Subject** Geometry Vacation San Diego, California Book The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton **Teacher** Mrs. Catherine Vernier **Extracurricular Activity** Football

### About Danny

Danny, a freshman at Grosse Pointe North and Our Lady Star of the Sea graduate, has two siblings, Stephen, 21, and Claire, 19.

Last season he played center on the North football team. He is also part of a rocket launch team that is attempting to qualify for a national competition in Washington D.C. Their rocket is engineered to reach a specific height within a given time, and it has to land softly so that the delicate passenger, a raw egg, doesn't break.

Danny enjoys hanging out with friends, fishing, playing football, basketball, hockey and baseball.

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### Making a difference one sandwich at a time

**By Patti Theros** 

n a sunny January afternoon some 70 youth and adult volunteers gathered to make bagged lunches at the St. Paul Catholic School cafeteria for the Robby Elmers' Project to help homeless people in the inner city.

"Our goal was to make 250 lunches," says Tricia Kesteloot, who coordinated the project with Michelle Rivera. "We actually had so many people bring extra items that after a quick trip to Farms Market, our goal of 250 became 500!"



The project was inspired by Robby Elmers, a 13-year-old boy who has recently made headlines for his mission of serving the homeless in Detroit. Robby, his grandmother, Cindy, and his younger sister, Emma, visited St. Paul to talk to the volunteers after the lunches

were assembled. He gave his testimonial about how good he feels when he cares for the homeless. He considers them his friends and knows that he was called to help them.

Robby told the volunteers that four years ago, after his father passed away, he had a glimpse into how the homeless live in Detroit when his grandmother dropped clothes off at a homeless shelter. That experience had a true impact on him. Robby now

visits the Tumaini

Center, a homeless shelter in Detroit every Saturday or Sunday. He and his grandmother set up a table filled with hot dogs, bagged lunches, potato salad and other goods for the homeless.

Several St. Paul adult volunteers were so moved after hearing Robby's inspirational testimony that they drove down to Robby's stand and helped with the distribution of lunches. One of the volunteers said the experience was "life changing" for he and his family.

Lunches contained a meat and cheese sandwich, yogurt, fresh fruit, snack and dessert. All items were donated by volunteers who signed up to bring one or two items.

"I don't get the opportunity to do projects like this with my school," says seventh grader Lauren Reno, from Pierce Middle School. "This is really special because we get to help people who really need us."

Other students echoed her sentiments.

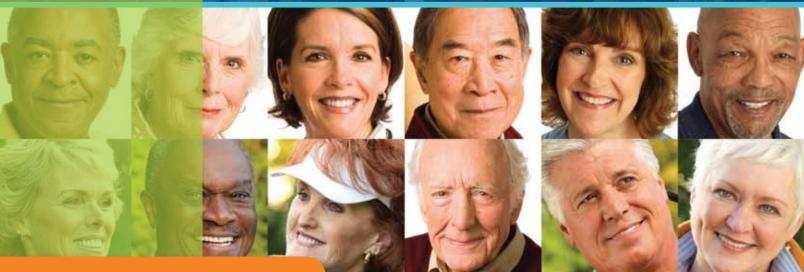
"This project is important to me, because it encourages me to help people and it reminds me that I have so much," says Katelyn Moyer, fifth grade St. Paul School student.

Left, Nick Rivera, University Liggett School Sophomore Class President, and Dr. Steve McGraw

Photos by Tricia Kesteloot



## Ve are neighbors taking care of your neighbors.



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worked with him and told him what to do and how to do it.

"This is not a place to relax. What you put in is what you get out. You can relax when you get back home."



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### Featuring Erik Larson, Wade Rouse and Megan Abbott

#### **By Beth Quinn**

ne of Grosse Pointe's most popular literary events, Books on the Lake, will be held on Saturday, May 2 at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. This year's attendees will be able to rub elbows with authors Erik Larson, Wade Rouse and Megan Abbott.

"We are really lucky to have three such distinguished writers at this year's event," says Vickey Bloom, executive director of the Grosse Pointe Public Library.

The program starts at 11 a.m. with a 30-minute book signing, followed by a sit-down luncheon, during which authors will speak individually for approximately 20 minutes about their work.

"Guests can bring their own books to be signed or they can buy books at the event from The Book Beat, an Oak Park book store," says Jen Bingaman, Grosse Pointe Library Foundation executive director.

Larson has penned four *New York Times* bestselling books. He was nominated for a National Book Award for *The Devil in the White City* which also won an Edgar Award for nonfiction crime writing. Actor Leonardo DiCaprio bought the movie rights in November 2010.

His 2011 book *In the Garden of the Beast* hit number one on the bestseller list and remained on the hardcover and paperback lists for 35 and 53 weeks, respectively. It has been acquired for publication in 20 countries and optioned by actor Tom Hanks for a feature film.

Larson's current work, *Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania*, chronicles the misfortune of the British ocean liner, briefly the world's largest passenger ship, that was destroyed by a German U-boat, killing 1198 passengers and crew members. The book's release coincides with the 100th year anniversary of the sinking on May 7, 1915.

Larson is a former features writer for *The Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times*. His magazine stories have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic, Harper's* and other publications.

Rouse has authored four acclaimed memoirs. His autobiography, *Confessions of A Prep School Mommy Handler*, was named as a Breakout Book by Target. Another

> one, *At Least in the City Someone Would Hear Me*, was an IndieBound bestseller and selected as a must-read by NBC's Today Show.

> *Writer's Digest* recently ranked Rouse number two in the "Writer, Dead or Alive, We'd Love to have Drinks With" category with Ernest Hemingway holding the top spot, posthumously. Rouse has made frequent appearances on NBC's Today Show. Rouse, who spends his summers in Saugatuck, Mich., is a regular literary contributor to NPR's Michigan Radio.

Abbott, a Grosse Pointe North graduate, is the author of the noir crime novels, *Queenpin, The Song is You, Die a Little, Bury Me Deep, The End of Everything,* and *Dare Me.* In 2011, *Time Magazine* named her one of the "23 Authors That We Admire."

In 2008, *Queenpin* won the Edgar Award for Best Paperback Original, the Barry Award for Best Paperback Novel and was nominated for the Anthony Award for Best Paperback Original. Two years later, Abbott was once again nominated for the Anthony Award for *Bury Me* 

#### Deep.

Her latest book, *The Fever*, was chosen to be one of the "Best Books of the Year" by Amazon, National Public Radio, *The Boston Globe* and *The Los Angeles Times*. It was also selected as one of the "Best Books of the Summer" by the *The New York Times, People Magazine*, and *Entertainment Weekly*.

Books on the Lake is made possible by the Grosse Pointe Library Foundation in partnership with Wayne County Community College District.

Tickets are \$35 per person and will be available beginning Saturday, March 21 at The GPPL Central Branch, or online at www.gp.lib.mi.us.



BOOKS ON LAKE

### **Bayview to host** Safety-at-Sea

**By Ted Everingham** 

ayview Yacht Club is presenting a Safety-at-Sea Seminar on Saturday, April 25, from 8 a.m. until noon. The seminar is sanctioned by US SAILING, but it

is designed to provide valuable training, in an engaging format. for powerboaters as well as sailors and regardless



of their level of experience.

Participants will discuss critical safety preparations, equipment and techniques for avoiding and overcoming lifethreatening emergencies on the water.

The seminar will be moderated by Brian Adams (Chicago) who has extensive racing, cruising and boatdelivery experience in the Great Lakes and off the East Coast, as well as a U.S. Coast Guard Captain's License. He was the communicator on Sociable during the *Wing Nuts* rescue during the 2011 Chicago Yacht Club Race to Mackinac, about which a great deal has been written and debated.

"This will be the first US SAILINGsanctioned Safety-at-Sea Seminar in the Greater Detroit area in five years, says Commodore Mickey Bennett, Bayview's co-chair of the program. "All boaters are welcome, and they don't have to be members of any club to attend. It is a perfect way to get ready for a safe summer on the water."

The early-registration fee is only \$50 (\$45 for US SAILING members). For more information, click on www.byc. com or call Bayview Yacht Club at (313) 822-1853.

Ted Everingham's Great Lakes Log can be seen daily at 10:30 a.m., 4:30 & 10:30 p.m. and 4:30 a.m. on WMTV, a service of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, on Comcast channels 5 & 915 in the Pointes and Harper Woods, on WOW channel 10 in Grosse Pointe Woods and on AT&T U-verse in seven counties in Southeast Michigan.

**Books On The Lake** Annual Book/Author Luncheon May 2, 2015 Erik Larson - Megan Abbott - Wade Rouse Tickets: \$35.00 On Sale beginning March 21 Sponsored by: Grosse Pointe Library Foundation & Wayne County Community College District





Kelly Fordon author of Garden For The Blind Join us for the Grosse Pointe book launch Wednesday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m. Register online www.gp.lib.mi.us Or call 313-343-2074 x222



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## HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Here are a few fun facts about St. Patrick!

#### March 17th is when Patrick died.

Saint Patrick is a saint of the Catholic Church, and his holy day is the day of his death, rather than the day of his physical birth.

#### St. Patrick wasn't Irish.

St. Patrick wasn't Irish, and he wasn't born in Ireland. Patrick's parents were Roman citizens living in modern-day England, or more precisely in Scotland or Wales (scholars cannot agree on which). He was born in 385 A.D. By that time, most Romans were Christians and the Christian religion was spreading rapidly across Europe.

#### St. Patrick was a slave.

At the age of 16, Patrick had the misfortune of being kidnapped by Irish raiders who took him away and sold him as a slave. He spent several years in Ireland herding sheep and learning about the people there. At the age of 22, he managed to escape. He made his way to a monastery in England where he spent 12 years growing closer to God.

### St. Patrick used the shamrock to preach about the trinity.

Many claim the shamrock represents faith, hope, and love or any number of other things but it was actually used by Patrick to teach the mystery of the Holy Trinity, and how three things, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit could be separate entities, yet one in the same.

#### Patrick's color is blue.

The original color associated with St. Patrick is blue, not green as commonly believed. In several artworks depicting the saint, he is shown wearing blue vestments. Green was associated with the country later, presumably because of the greenness of the countryside. Today, the country is also referred to as the "Emerald Isle."

#### The Shamrock is not the symbol of Ireland.

The shamrock is a popular Irish symbol, but it is not the symbol of Ireland. As early as the medieval period, the harp has appeared on Irish gravestones and manuscripts. However, it is certain that the harp was popular in Irish legend and culture well before that period. When Ireland became an independent country in 1921, it adopted the harp as the national symbol.

#### St. Patrick's was a dry holiday in Ireland until 1970.

Aside from the color green, the activity most associated with St. Patrick's Day is drinking. However, Irish law, from 1903 to 1970, declared St. Patrick's Day a religious observance for the entire country meaning that all pubs were shut down for the day. That meant no beer, not even the green kind, for public celebrants. The law was overturned in 1970, when St. Patrick's Day was reclassified as a national holiday - allowing the taps to flow freely once again. Bonus Fact: Your odds of finding a four-leaf clover are:

About:1in 10,000.

Source: Catholic Online www.catholic.org

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## Meet Michelle

Photo by the Portrait Place

#### What is your favorite thing about living in Grosse Pointe?

I love how friendly everyone is. I also love how parents and the community partner with our schools.

#### What are two of your best personality traits?

Resilience and tenacity, which are tied with sensitivity and empathy.

#### What is the best trip you've ever taken?

A trip to Venice and Verona, Italy in 2011 with my husband and daughter. What is the best gift you've ever received?

The first best gift was my daughter Belle, and then my daughter Ruby. As far as the best material gift, it was the gift of my Bachelor's and Master's degrees framed, which is hanging in my office.

#### What is one thing not many people know about you?

That I jumped out of a perfectly good airplane.

#### What accomplishment are you most proud of?

Teaching my daughter: 1. To treat others with respect and to treat them how she would like to be treated. 2. To know she can do whatever she sets her mind to. 3. Hard work is necessary to gain anything worth having. Words to live by?

"I like things to happen. And if they don't happen, I like to make them happen." -Winston Churchill

#### Name Michelle Roberts

**Age** 39

**City** Grosse Pointe Park

**Occupation** Textile & Apparel Consultant as the owner of Technical Textile Solutions

### Michelle's Favorites

Season

Spring

Movie Gone with the Wind

Gone w

#### Book

Getting Things Done by David Allen

Music Genre

Oldies (50s and 60s, beach music and Motown!)

#### Vacation

European Castle Tour

**Spot in Grosse Pointe** Shopping in the Village with my daughters and husband

Outdoor Activity Snowboarding

Restaurant

The Hill Food

Sushi

### About Michelle

Michelle and husband Paul Bukta are the proud parents of Katherine Belle, 5, and Ruby Rose, 7 months.

"My favorite time of the week is on a Sunday afternoon in the winter, snow is coming down, a fire is going in the fireplace and I'm with my husband and daughters eating homemade chili," she says. "When it's not Sunday in the winter, I love to garden, work out with kettlebells, spend time teaching my daughter new skills, and enjoy red wine with friends."

Michelle also enjoys reading, interior decorating and home improvement projects and is active in Grosse Pointe Rotary.

### **Unintended heirs**

**By Jon B. Gandelot** 

ithout proper estate planning and thinking about the possible consequences of failing to correctly plan, an estate could end up with the

wrong people inheriting assets. The Marilyn Monroe estate illustrates this.

died in 1962,

bulk of her then

she left the



modest estate to her acting coach, Lee Strasberg, and his wife, Paula. Paula died of cancer in 1966. Lee then married his third wife, Anna. Lee died in 1982, leaving his estate to Anna. Anna realized the potential licensing rights to the Monroe name and likeness. She hired a firm to exploit the possibilities. and now Anna's children are the beneficiaries of the estimated \$30 million per year in royalties and licensing fees. Marilyn Monroe never knew Anna!

Had Monroe given more thought to her estate plan (and had had better advice), she could have established a trust to hold the assets of her estate. Monroe experienced a troubled childhood. Her favorite charity was an organization to help children from broken homes. That charity could have been the beneficiary of the trust and could have conceivably helped thousands of children since her death over 50 years ago.

The take-away lesson here is to carefully think through the potential beneficiaries of your estate. Consider who might be an unintentional beneficiary and use trust provisions to ensure that the people you intend to receive distributions will actually get them.

Jon B. Gandelot is founding principal, GANDELOT HARTMANN, an estate planning and trust administration firm in Grosse Pointe Farms.



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## POMTE | financial plannerStill time for2014 tax break

By Lina Bowman

f you own a business, you still have time to set up a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) plan for 2014. If you

set up and fund your SEP by the due date of your 2014 business return (including extensions), you can still take a deduction for 2014. SEP plans



offer high contribution and deduction limits, minimal paperwork and no annual Form 5500 filing. You may be able to contribute to a SEP plan even if you participate in an unrelated employer's plan (for example, a 401(k) plan). Contributions to a SEP plan are subject to the SEP contribution limits, the lessor of up to 25 percent of each employee's pay or \$52,000 for 2014.

If your business uses the calendar year for its tax year, the deadline to set up and contribute to a SEP plan for 2014 depends on the type of your business organization. Corporations filing Form 1120 or 1120S have until March 15, 2015 (September 15, 2015, if you file for an extension). Sole proprietors reported on Schedule C of Form 1040 and Partnerships filing Form 1065 have until April 15, 2015 (October 15, 2015, if you file for an extension).

Other kinds of business-sponsored retirement plans must have been established before the end of 2014 in order for the business to get a deduction for 2014.

 $^{\ast}$  There's also still time for either Traditional or Roth IRA contributions for 2014 (until April 15<sup>th</sup>).

Lina Bowman is a financial adviser in Grosse Pointe. She can be reached at (313) 343-0800 or Lina@ BowmanAsset.com.

### **POINTE** | feature **SAVE THE DATE G.P. Historical Society gala**

Grosse Pointe becomes magical at "Some Enchanted Evening" on Thursday, June 18, at the 12th annual Summer Gala benefitting the Grosse Pointe Historical Society. The Society is celebrating its 70th anniversary of preserving Grosse Pointe history!

This year's gala will be presented at a rarely seen, Palm Beach-style 1929 mansion in Grosse Pointe Farms. Once lived in by a worldclass automotive designer originally from California, this home offers breathtaking views and exquisite interiors. The house is the only structure in Michigan designed by prominent East Coast and Palm Beach architect August Geiger.

Open to the public on this rare occasion, guests will enjoy gourmet food and drink, a Swing Orchestra and an opportunity to see rare classic cars on display. Space is limited. Visit www.gphistorical.org for more details.



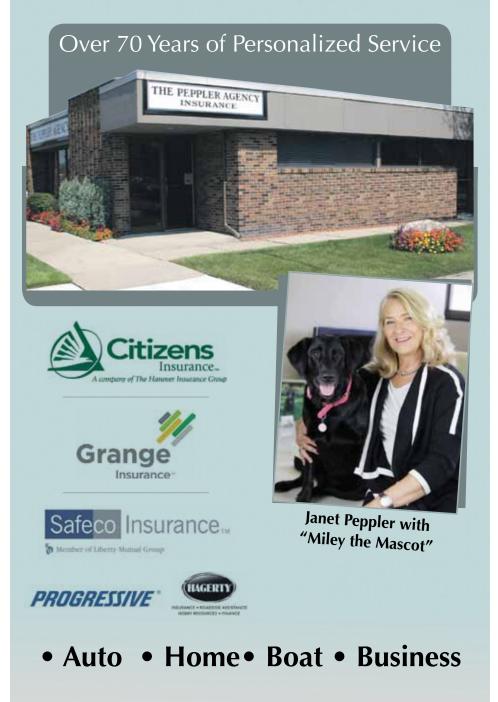
Grand foyer with winding staircase and restored marble — and heated — floor. Spacious dining room with crystal chandelier, 14-foot, gold-leaf ceiling and handmade rug over restored herring-bone blonde hardwood floor.



Photos by Robin M Photography GROSSE POINTE MAGAZINE | MARCH-APRIL 2015

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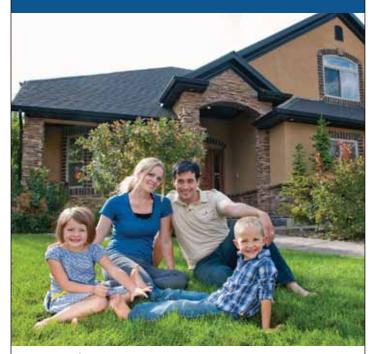




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hat's cooking during Grosse Pointe's Restaurant Week? On Friday, April 24, the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce will kick off its 4th Annual Restaurant Week. The culinary marathon will last through Saturday, May 2.

Grosse Pointe dining establishments will serve up special prix fixe menus and other culinary selections.

Diners are encouraged to pair their restaurant week dining with local shopping and sightseeing, including Grosse Pointe's unparalleled boutiques, art galleries, apparel stores and specialty shops.

Celebrate Grosse Pointe's fabulous dining scene, which includes a variety of cuisines from Italian and French to Mediterranean, Mexican and Modern American – don't forget dessert!

Visit www.grossepointechamber.com for more information.



The 2014 Grosse Pointe Restaurant Week was featured on Channel 4 with Champs Rotisserie and Seafood owner Dan Curis and Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce president Jennifer Boettcher.







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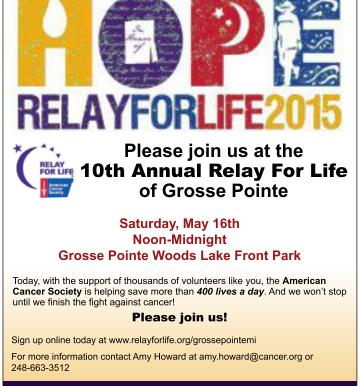
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### A HAPPILY EVER AFTER

heir story is one of early obstacles and the deep, supportive friendship of two individuals destined to be more. Caroline Dowers and Richard (Rick) Bloomingdale met during medical school. While they were already friends, the pair realized how much they truly treasured each other's company during a volunteer program that involved traveling to St. Louis high schools to give lectures on skin



cancer prevention. It was on one of the many bus rides that the pair developed deeper feelings for one another.

"The second year of medical school was a very stressful experience. Through that year and the ones to follow, we were there for each other during all of the long nights in the libraries, the big exams and the rotations through the hospital," says Caroline. "We realized that if we could make it through such a trying time together and still love each other, we could make it through anything."

During the intense stress and hardwork of medical school, Caroline and Rick found relief outdoors. While hiking in the cliffs along a St. Louis river, Rick asked Caroline to stop and pose for a photo at a clearing overlooking the bluffs. He set up a tripod, and just as he was about to pose for the photo, turned to Caroline, got down on one knee and proposed, catching the moment on camera.

The big day took place on June 21, 2014, with the wedding ceremony at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Farms and the reception



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at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. The couple was sure to include personal details at the reception.

"Since we both love ice cream, we had Alinosi's bring an ice cream cart for people to make sundaes during the reception," says Caroline. "Rick's sister Lisa and her boyfriend Dustin designed a signature drink for us – a Rosemary Gin Fizz for everybody to enjoy during the cocktail hour."

The couple praised their photographer, John Martin of John F. Martin Photography for capturing the day. They also enjoyed a decadent cake and the Alinosi ice cream cart from Chocolate Bar Cafe. Caroline highly recommends Roma Sposa bridal salon in Birmingham for gowns. Their stunning floral arrangements were created by Bellisario Florists in Eastpointe.

Caroline's advice to engaged couples overwhelmed by wedding planning is, "Keep reminding yourself of the real reason for the day, and don't worry about making everything perfect!"

Today, the couple lives in Grosse Pointe Park. Caroline is an Emergency Medicine Resident Physician and Rick is an Internal Medicine Resident Physician.

What's been the best part of married life? Rick says, "It has been so wonderful having Caroline to share every happy moment with. She is truly my best friend and she makes me smile every day."



Caroline echoes the sentiment, "We are a team now, and are on each other's side no matter what. Rick makes me stronger, and I love being able to share everything with him."



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### WEDDING ETIQUETTE EVOLUTION

n her 43 years as owner of the League Shop, Pat Brinker has seen wedding customs come and go, traditions evolve and expectations shift. She details the major areas of wedding etiquette evolution, from stationery to gifts registries and beyond.

#### Invitations

Invitations have changed most dramatically. Standard white and ivory invitations coupled with scrolling script and calligraphy have been replaced

#### **By Lauren McGregor**

with any combination of colors and typefaces. "There is much more color," Brinker says. "Even all-black invitations."

Brinker has also seen a major change in invitation verbiage. With more divorces and different family arrangements, fleeting is the invitation which begins, "Mr. and Mrs. Smith request the honor of your presence at the wedding ceremony of their daughter."

Between more engaged couples funding the wedding themselves and



varying familial situations, Brinker has seen a dramatic increase in invitations that begin, "Together with their parents, Jane Smith and John Jones request the honor of your presence."

Technology has ushered in an enormous change in the RSVP portion of the invitation. "Half of the invitations we do today include an e-mail address," Brinker says. "You used to fill out a response card and mail it."

Transportation cards, while sometimes used today, were the standard of a pre-GPS and smart phone generation. Admission cards, admitting guests into the church, were even used. In the 1950s and 60s, they were often accompanied by pew cards, assigning each guest to certain pew.

#### Wedding gifts

While Brinker says guests are spending more than ever on wedding gifts, that's not necessarily due to an increase in gift price, but rather an increase in spending on pre-wedding celebrations such as showers. Shower gifts have essentially become wedding gifts, as couples today are more likely to receive a physical present at the shower



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and a money gift at the wedding. Weddings of past generations saw a much fuller gift table, while today a card box carries the bulk of the gifts.

"Wedding gifts have also become less formal," Brinker says. "For example, when formal china is chosen, couples stick to only dinner and salad plates and far fewer cups and saucers, bread and butter plates."

Brinker says the shift away from china sets has been most evident in the past five years.

"When couples do choose to register for china, color has become more popular than the traditional all white," Brinker says.

The registration process has seen more involvement from grooms in the last twenty years. "When women hit the work force, more and more men began giving their input and sharing the planning," Brinker says.

#### Thank you cards

It may be difficult for modern brides to imagine sending two separate sets of thank you notes. But such was a custom in the 1950s and 60s.

"Couples who were taking a long honeymoon, for example, sent an initial thank you card," Brinker says. This first card read something along the lines of: "Mr. & Mrs. Smith received your wedding gift. A formal thank you will follow." A thoughtful thank you letter written after the honeymoon served as the second note.

"One of the saddest changes has been in not handwriting thank you notes," Brinker says, who now receives requests to have stock thank you notes printed before the wedding.

### One thing that hasn't changed?

Surveying registry items in person. "With the shift to everything online, couples may look for registry items online, but they want to see the items in person," Brinker says. "Checking the quality still matters to brides and grooms."

The League Shop is located on the Hill in Grosse Pointe Farms. Visit theleagueshop.com or call (313) 882-6880 for your gift and stationery needs.



Blue dinnerware is an especially popular choice today (pictured previous page), Brinker says. The cake, above, by Morning Glory Coffee & Pastries, is an example of the departure from an all white cake to one that not only has a punch of blue, but quirky details such as upside down bows. The invitation, right, illustrates the use of several typefaces, a style chosen by many couples today.

Photos by Lauren McGregor

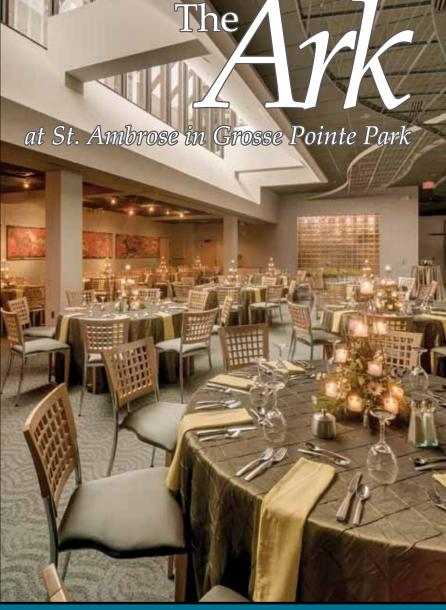
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### BALLROOM GLITZ

**By Beth Newhart** 

hen you've got it, flaunt it. And that's exactly what Tami Kessler of Tamara Kessler and Associates did with the ballroom at the War Memorial. Added to the Alger House in the 1960s, the ballroom was in need of a change. Its new, modern look may say 2015, yet it still reflects the atmosphere created when the house was built in 1910.

Gone are the monochrome walls and window treatments that hid the spectacular view of Lake St. Clair. Contrasting paints highlight both columns and windows. Valances sit atop each window, hiding mesh shades that can be lowered to block sunlight during presentations. The rest of the time, the lake becomes the perfect backdrop for any event.

From top to bottom, everything is new. The honey-colored stain was removed from the parquet floors, and a new espresso color gives the room a warm feel. Domes in the ceiling were painted with a silver-leaf finish, giving the three crystal chandeliers even more reason to sparkle.

Double doors, which once led from the ballroom to the kitchen and men's restroom, have also been removed in an effort to maintain privacy for events.

"I like the overall elegance of the whole place," Kessler says. "We didn't do a lot, but we did make it come to life. It pays homage to the architectural elements and the view."

The reception area also received a facelift, with a similar paint pattern, new brass kick plates on the doors and reupholstered benches. The men's room even went GQ, with rich paint on the walls and new fixtures. A doorway was also added near the restrooms, to close the kitchen off from the general public.

"We are thrilled with Tami's redesign of the ballroom," says Charles Burke, president and CEO of the War Memorial. "Her updated design has transformed it into a modern, yet elegant, space that frames our magnificent view of the house, gardens and Lake St. Clair."

The War Memorial has always been





the go-to place in the Pointes for special events. But with an updated look, a new executive chef and new special events director, the War Memorial is taking special to a whole new level. **P** 



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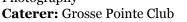


Christine & Ben

All the details of lake side wedding

Benjamin Fischer and Christine Littmann of Grosse Pointe City were married July 12, 2014 at the Grosse Pointe Club.

**The Theme:** "I am a huge Lilly Pulitzer fan," says Christine. "I chose the 'You Gotta Regatta' pattern as sort of a guide to the color palette for our wedding." **Photographer:** John Martin Photography



**Cake Baker:** Chocolate Bar Café for cupcakes and an outstanding gluten free wedding cake by Tim and John Mikolajaczyk of Leon's Pastries in Madison Heights **The Dress:** A Monique Lhuillier wedding gown from Roma Sposa Bridal Salon in Birmingham. Bridesmaids wore a Lilly Pulitzer dress.

**The Suit:** Ben opted to have a suit made for the wedding in navy blue from Rimanelli's Custom Tailor. He also wore a Vineyard Vines pink gingham dress shirt and the groomsman complemented him in green gingham. **Florist:** Scarlet Poppy. "Cindy Hicks is way more than a florist, she is amazing."

Hair and Makeup: David the Salon. "David Cockell did a fantastic job."

Photos by John F. Martin Photography





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## DAY CAMPS IN THE POINTES

**By Patti Theros** 

t's spring and time to start thinking about enrolling your child in a local summer day camp. Here's a quick overview of local schools that offer an array of cultural, academic and sports camps.

#### **Assumption Nursery School**

Assumption offers two sessions of its "Explore Your World!" summer camp from June 15-Aug. 27 for children ages 7 - 12. Parents may elect to enroll for the entire summer or to enroll for one of the two sessions. Session 1 activities include an interactive theater arts clinic with Grosse Pointe Theatre's Harry Burkey to produce and star in their own commercial; working with clay and Sugar Hill studio; and an opportunity to explore the study of music with Wayne State University students under the direction of Kypros Markou, WSU Professor and Director of Orchestral Studies. Campers can also enjoy field trips, yoga and basketball clinics.

Session 2 will focus on creative arts activities and features the Detroit Institute of Arts at Assumption. Field trips include the Michigan Science Center, the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, the Provencal-Weir House, Comerica Park, Greekfest and the Woods Park. With a focus on healthy bodies, students will participate in volleyball, karate and baseball clinics.

Full or half day sessions are available. Summer Camp continues for ages 1-6 as well. For dates, rates and to sign up visit assumptionnursery.org or call (586) 772-4477.

#### **Liggett Summer Programs**

Liggett Summer Programs offer a variety of fun and exciting day, sports and academic camps. Camps include Day Camp (for rising 1st through 6th graders) with special theme weeks including Harry Potter and Island Adventure; Junior Day Camp (for 3and 4-year-olds and rising kindergartners) which offers fun activities including swimming lessons; Sports Camps (for rising 1st through 10th-graders), which include co-ed soccer, girls' field hockey and lacrosse, and boys' baseball and lacrosse; Major League All-Sports Camp (for rising 6th through 9th graders), an opportunity to play two different sports a day;

Senior Camp (for rising 6th through 9th graders), a leadership program that includes camping and ropes courses; Summer Academic Academy (for rising 6th and 7th graders) with math, literature and language arts classes as well as Minecraft (computer programming), Science at Work (building and racing balloon cars) and LEGO Construction (grades K-5).

Register online at uls.org/ summerprograms. The first camps start June 22. Visit uls.org/ summerprograms to see rates.

#### **Discover Summer Camps at The Grosse Pointe Academy!**

Young campers may enjoy arts and crafts with themes such as authors and art. dinosaurs and Native Americans. "Junior chefs" will learn about kitchen safety, food preparation and cooking/

Campers at 313 Lacrosse Camp; below, Allie Larpenteur and Hannah Martin at Camp Invention

Photos by Mary Anne Brush

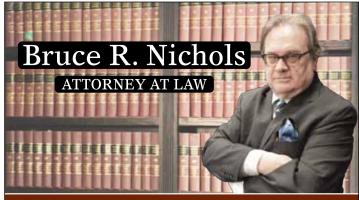


baking techniques as well as decorate an apron and create a cookbook.

Camp Invention, a week-long camp in August, inspires creative and inventive thinking through hands-on, creative problem solving activities. For sports enthusiasts there are tennis clinics directed by certified USPTA instructor Cheryl Carroll, a basketball clinic under the instruction of GPA's own coaches, and 313 Lacrosse Camp directed by lacrosse guru Ken Brubaker, which offers cutting edge techniques and skills under the instruction of veteran collegiate level players assisted by local high school varsity players.

Space is limited and camp payments are non-refundable. Ages range from 3 to 13. For specific dates, times and rates, visit gpacademy.org or call (313) 886-1221 for a brochure.





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## DESTINATION SUMMER CAMPS IS YOUR CHILD READY?

**By Patti Theros** 

hile there are many great summer day programs, some children are interested in overnight, destination camps. These camps often combine the fun of the summer outdoors with a special interest in the arts, sports or even a mission trip.

Destination summer camps can give your child the opportunity to make new friends and have a sense of accomplishment while away from home. Today there are hundreds of specialized camps and it can be overwhelming to pick the right camp for your child. Here are some criteria to look for when choosing that perfect destination camp:

1. Safety and reputation - How long has the camp been around? Is the camp associated with a professional organization or church?

2. Talk to parents whose kids have attended the camp. Find out what they liked or disliked about the camp.



3. What are the credentials of the instructors or supervisors?

4. What are the accommodations and staffing ratio per child? Younger children require more supervision. Make sure the housing arrangements are appropriate for your child.

5. Is your child ready for an overnight camp? While many children have done sleepovers at family and friends' homes, not all children are emotionally ready for an overnight camp.

6. Cost – Some camps offer financial assistance. Be sure to inquire.

One popular arts camp is Interlochen Center for the Arts in northern Michigan. Students from all



over the world attend Interlochen Arts Camp to study music, theater, visual arts, creative writing, motion picture arts and dance. Summer programs are for grades three to 12 and are one to six weeks long, depending on the program. Most programs are between June 27 and Aug. 10.

Interlochen is located near Traverse City. Register early since space is limited and some programs require audition tapes. Scholarship and financial aid is available for qualifying students. Visit camp.interlochen.org/ for more information.

If your child is looking for adventure, Overland offers summer experiences worldwide for grades four to 12. Opportunities include their introductory program, biking, hiking, leadership, language, writing, service and field studies programs domestically and abroad.

Overland's "introductory" program is for the younger campers and offers one or two weeks of adventure and exploration in New England, Yellowstone or the Sierras with a wide range of fun outdoor activities, including day hikes, bike rides, kayaking and rafting.

Other trips and programs range from two to four weeks. For more information, visit overlandsummers. com. 9



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## The RIVERS — Welcome Home!

lready becoming a staple in Grosse Pointe, The Rivers, Grosse Pointe's newest campus designed for seniors, is connected to the Grosse Pointe community through its members.

"Most members living at The Rivers are either from Grosse Pointe or have Grosse Pointe ties," says Debbie Sikora, executive director of the campus. "Some have lived here and have families rooted in Grosse Pointe, some moved away following retirement and are now returning, while others are coming from areas outside the Pointes to experience living at The Rivers. The members have found commonality within the community. We have the honor to see new friendships being built each day."

Construction of The Rivers has been completed in phases. As each phase comes to completion, new members are welcomed to the community. "We are continually growing The Rivers family," says Sikora.

The first two phases were constructed simultaneously, including the Residence Club and Independent Living. The Rivers "Residence Club" consists of 40 individually owned homes surrounding the main campus building. All 40 sites have been purchased and many members have moved in. The Independent Living Community is complete and fully operational, consisting of 77 suites with a variety of floor plans to choose from. Suites range in size from 555 sq. ft. studio suites, to 1005 sq. ft. 2 bedroom/2 bath suites. Available floor plans include 1-bedroom options as well. Each suite highlights a distinctive design with granite counter-tops, decorative lighting fixtures and appliances, including a washer and dryer.

Amenities available at The Rivers, including the

restaurants, activities center, fitness gym and saltwater pool, are conveniently located in the main building and are easily accessible to all members. Amenities include a unique balance of social, leisure, fitness and spiritual activities. The Rivers Independent Living suites include housekeeping, concierge services, maintenance and utilities.

"The Rivers dining options are what really set us apart," says Sikora, "Our restaurants are led by chefs and culinary teams. The menu offers varied and delicious selections, but most importantly is driven by our members' requests."

The next phase scheduled for completion will offer assisted living and memory care services along with respite care. It will be licensed by the state of Michigan and held to the guidelines and standards set forth. The building will have a total of 80 suites — 40 assisted living, 30 memory care and 10 respite short-term suites. Caregivers will be onsite 24 hours a day to provide assistance with daily needs and to provide comfort, companionship and peace of mind. This phase is nearing completion and is currently accepting reservations.

The final phase of the campus is a skilled nursing center and will provide short-term rehabilitation for individuals requiring this service. "The skilled nursing center will be ideal for those needing rehabilitation after surgery or hospitalization," says Sikora. "Our members will have priority access to utilize these services."

The Rivers invites individuals to learn more about the community by visiting. Call ahead at (313) 885-5005 or stop by the main lobby. Learn more online at **www.** theriversgrossepointe.net.











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# **RIGHT**at Home

## Colorize your entrance

By Virginia Ficarra

our home is your signature piece. Whether buying, selling or just nesting, curb appeal is the first impression. Your front porch is one of the key components combined with lawn care, painting and cleaning. The exterior is a clue to the care and detail of the interior.



Photos by Virginia Ficarra

The front door kicks off the color palette for your porch. Seek to draw attention by matching flower colors to the door. Two large pots on either side are effective.

Alternately, you can arrange odd numbers of groupings of smaller containers on each side of steps or doors as well.

If possible, a special touch is to match the style of container to the architecture of your home. If your porch door is stained or painted black or white, simply contrast it with your flower selections; light against dark and vice versa. Metal, concrete or terra cotta clay pots are containers that are always in style for any setting.

The selection formula for a good looking container is a variety of leaf and flower shapes, sizes, textures and a dominant color. This assortment is interesting for a single container or in a grouping of pots.

## **Culinary Plant Tips**

**1.** Revive your current clay pots. To remove salt deposits, combine a mixture of equal parts white vinegar, rubbing alcohol and water in a spray bottle. Apply the mixture and scrub with a brush.

 Nourish your potted plants. Feed them leftover water from steamed or boiled vegetables. You will be amazed.
 Tea and coffee grounds are good to acidify acid loving plants such as gardenias, rhododendrons, camellias and blueberries.

4. Chamomile tea controls aphids on delicate plants by damping off fungus, which often attacks young seedlings.5. Herb plants give off a fresh aroma and can be used in any porch container or flowerbed.



Smart Home Moves LLC, Color, and Design Coach established 1982, Virginia is a Member of the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce. Contact Virginia at colorwizard@ me.com or (313) 330-8900.





## The Man Behind the Hammer

Master Builder, Master Carpenter, lifelong Grosse Pointer, Steve Makos has over a quarter of a century of construction to his credit in the Pointes. His crews call him a relentless perfectionist. His customers call him back to do more work. His two kids just call him dad.

When he s not building things, Steve is an avid outdoorsman who enjoys skiing, hunting and fishing. His favorite toys are his tools, his truck and his restored Dodge Challanger.

Asked to describe himself professionally he is unhesitating. I am, at heart, a craftsman. I take great pride in each of my projects and believe that the only satisfactory approach is to do it right the first time. The Pointes have their own unique architecture. Whether replacing a window or door, adding or renovating a room, doing a complete remodel or building a new home, we respect the character and tradition of where we live. Much of our work is on homes that were built to last. The quality of our workmanship needs to be done in that same tradition — built to last.

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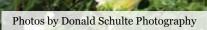


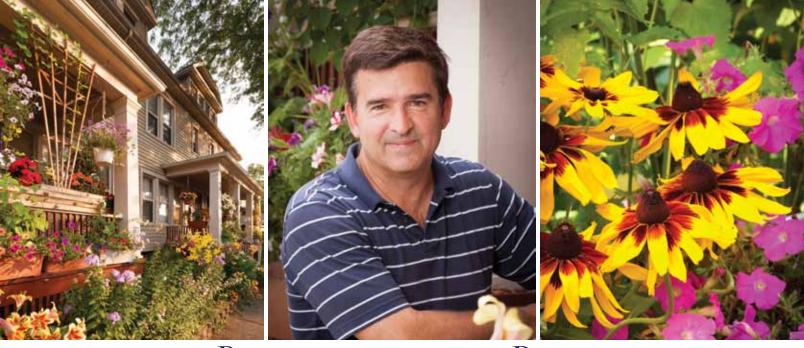
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## **BLOOMING IN THE PARK**

t's March, but Jeff Lee is already planning his five flower gardens. This month he'll turn and amend the soil, fertilize, and yank those early weeds. Daffodils and tulips will soon be on display. By late April, he's planting. In May and June, he'll add annuals and new perennials. By summertime, passersby will be stopping in front of his house to admire his labors.

"Gardening is in my family," Lee says. "My 86-year-old mother has always been a gardener. She still is. My brother is a landscaper. I began gardening seriously about 15 years ago."

Lee owns Sierra Station, a Mexican restaurant in the Park. He also works for Wolverine Human Services, a Detroit agency that serves abused and neglected children.

## **By Margie Smith**

Lee's five gardens are: the yards of his four-family apartment building in the Park; his mother's garden in New Baltimore; the front yard at Wolverine Human Services; a Northville house owned by his former boss's widow; and a garden on the site of a former residential treatment program in Detroit.

He hand-waters everything and does all the planning, planting, fertilizing, weeding, deadheading and clean-up. No help. "I am very organized," he says, but he concedes he'll probably install a sprinkler system this spring.

He estimates he grows 1,000 different varieties of flowering plants in his back yard, mostly perennials with varying bloom times and fragrances – tulips, daisies, phlox, dahlias, nicotinia, morning glories and more. Daylilies are his favorite. "There are 60,000 different varieties of daylilies!"

Gardening is great exercise, an outlet for creativity and a definite stressreliever, he says.

"I go to Eastern Market every Saturday. During the week I visit greenhouses looking for unusual flowers. I don't know the names of everything I plant and I have no desire to become a Master Gardener," he says. "I just have a knack for finding things that grow well."

People who walk past Lee's home on St. Paul between Lakepointe and Maryland often stop to admire his garden and frequently venture into the back yard. He welcomes visitors.

"I like seeing people enjoying my gardens. I think people appreciate what I do." <sup>9</sup>



## Home & Garden Expo

KITC

By Jim Stickford

hat started as an event for Grosse Pointe Realtors has become an annual event open to the public that allows thousands of people to get together and see what is happening in the home improvement market.

The 28th annual Grosse Pointe Board of REALTORS Home & Garden Expo is set to take place at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial on Saturday, March 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

"The economy has really made a bit of a comeback," event co-chair and Grosse Pointe realtor Judy Barker says. "For the past few years people have put off some of the home improvements that they might have wanted to do because of the economy. Now that things are better, visiting the Expo is the perfect way to find the business that can help make that improvement possible."

Barker says that the vendors who traditionally are at the Expo are related to home improvement – contractors and gardeners who can offer excellent service and quality work. But over the past few years, the Expo has broadened the categories of vendors who attend.

"We're looking this year to get at least one pet store at the Expo," Barker says. "You only have to walk down a Grosse Pointe street in the evening to see how Grosse Pointers love their dogs. But we will also have food vendors as well. We like to treat our vendors well, so we've provided them with box lunches. People saw that and asked if those lunches were for sale. We had to say no, but last year we decided to have food vendors on hand who could offer samples of their wares. It proved popular, so we're doing it again this year."

President of the Grosse Pointe Board of REALTORS, Chace Wakefield, says that one reason people should attend



this year's Expo is to see who is still in business.

"During the recession a lot of contractors closed their doors," Wakefield says. "So now that the economy has improved, people looking for contractors might find that the person they've used in the past isn't in business anymore. And if that person is still in business, they can reconnect with their customers at the Expo."

Barker says that in the past couple of years, the War Memorial has been improved itself. Some people attend the Expo just to take a tour of the War Memorial.

"Whatever the reason people attend, we hope to see more than 1,000 people attend this year's Expo," Barker says. 9





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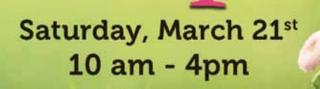
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## Seed lending library takes root in Grosse Pointe

By Beth Quinn

vintage card catalog has found new life at the Ewald branch of the Grosse Pointe Public Library. Rendered obsolete with the advent of the online public access catalog, the classic cabinet has found a new purpose in a hot new trend – the seed lending library.

Through the library's seed saving program, Grosse Pointe Grows, patrons are able to select heirloom seeds to plant in their gardens. While the ultimate goal of the program is to have patrons save seeds during harvest and donate them back to the library's collection, it is not a requirement to participate.

"There is no obligation to return seeds. There's no due date. There's no fine," says John Clexton, Ewald's branch coordinator. "We just want to encourage people to take up gardening."

A seed lending library fits in well with a library system that strives to be a community resource beyond lending books. It was one of the first libraries in the country to establish a tool lending program through which do-it-yourselfers and gardeners may borrow equipment.

"We are always looking for more



Catchfly seed packet from Ewald branch's seed lending program



programs to meet the needs of the community," says Vickey Bloom, GPPL executive director. "We hope we can attract people who might not normally come into the library."

While the seed lending library started out on an experimental basis last year, it was an immediate success with more than 700 seed packets being checked out by mid-summer.

"The added benefit was that people came in for the seeds but would end up also checking out a book," says Clexton.

Debbie Lynch, Ewald's assistant head of circulation, planted the idea for a seed lending library in 2013 after visiting one while on a vacation in the Upper Peninsula.

"My son-in-law first mentioned it to me but I was skeptical," Lynch says. "However, I changed my mind after seeing how successful one was at the library in Munising."

After receiving funding, Lynch started researching seed companies that have taken the safe seed pledge in which they promise "not to knowingly buy or sell genetically engineered seeds or plants."

The library has purchased seeds from Annie's Heirloom Seeds, Eden Brothers Seeds and Fedco Seeds for the upcoming growing season. The library is currently offering 77 vegetable, 24 herb and 40 flower varieties.

Patrons can check out up to six

packets every six months by presenting a current GPPL library card at the circulation desk.

To assist patrons in the selection process, each packet has a brief description of the optimal growing conditions the plant requires to thrive.

The seeds are categorized by the degree of difficulty it is to save seeds, not by how difficult it is to grow the plants. Lynch recommends that a beginner gardener not worry about saving seeds.

"Focus first on having fun and learning how to garden," she says. "The seed saving part will come later."

For those gardeners who are ready to save seeds, Lynch has divided them into three categories – easy, medium and advanced. Easy plants are selfpollinating and unlikely to crosspollinate between plants. Medium and advanced seeds require the skills to isolate plants and prevent crosspollination.

Lynch is developing a seed saving workshop during which an instructional video will be shown, followed by a question and answer period. The dates and times will be listed soon on the GPPL public calendar.

"We are hoping the public will take advantage of this workshop," Lynch says. "We want to educate patrons so they can be self-sufficient in their own gardens."





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## **POINTE KITCHEN AND BATH** ... by Connell Building Company

Over the past seven years employing an unparalleled level of craftsmanship and attention to detail, the Connell Building Company has become a premier builder and renovator of Grosse Pointe residences and commercial properties. To underscore his commitment to customer service, Dan Connell,

Owner and President, has made it a point to personally provide a high level of attention and visibility to each of Connell's customers.

Dan Connell's career originated under one of the best builders and mentors in the business; former prominent Grosse Pointe builder John Uznis, where Dan rose from the position of superintendent/project manager to

vice president. Dan started his own company in 2007, in the midst of the worst financial crisis in recent time. But thanks to Pointers' continued investment in their properties, Connell has managed to prosper. The Connell Building Company has completed projects for some very prominent families and businesses in Grosse Pointe, including residences on Provencal Road and Lake Shore Drive.

Dan grew up and attended school in Grosse Pointe, as do his children. He generously supports the community, including The Grosse Pointe Academy's Action Auction, University Liggett, Racing for Kids, Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade, The Family Center and Services for Older Citizens. In fact, he and his wife Jill's home was featured on SOC's annual Kitchen Tour last fall.

"What makes the Connell Building Company unique among Grosse Pointe builders is that it performs most work with our

> own staff," says Dan. Three years ago Connell purchased its own custom cabinet subsidiary: Elite Woodworking in Port Huron. Elite's team, with more than 100 years of experience among its skilled craftsmen, features the latest in CNC woodworking technology and produces all types of custom wood cabinets, countertops, and specialty wood products,

including exotic wood countertops, a popular new kitchen trend.

In order to better service its customers, Connell has partnered with Bremtown Cabinet Company, a premier line of kitchen and bath cabinets, that feature exquisite detailing, custom accessories, and a furniture-quality finish that is second to none in the industry. With this level of control in their organization, the Connell Building team ensures that each project is successfully completed with a relentless insistence on quality workmanship and value.

Dan Connell does not want his company's attention to





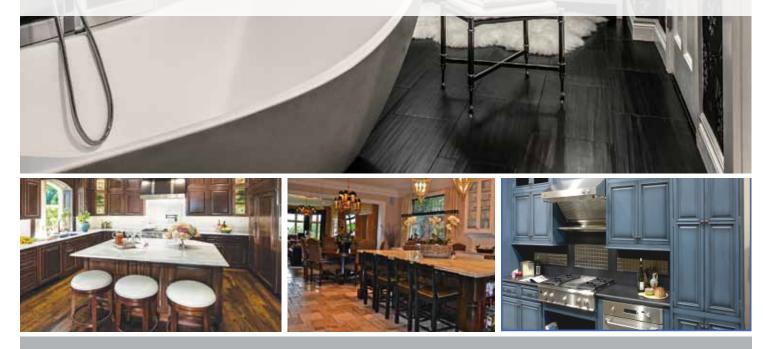




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## POINTE | promotional feature

workmanship and detail, especially his custom kitchens and baths, to go unnoticed. So the company has established its own subsidiary: Pointe Kitchen and Bath. Pointe Kitchen and Bath approaches each of its projects with a commitment to improve the functionality and usefulness of a kitchen or bath improvement, or a new construction design. The process begins with their experienced design staffs who understand the need to properly scale a kitchen layout, or the relaxing environment achieved with a luxurious spa bath; by employing creative design solutions. Only the finest quality in kitchen cabinetry, plumbing fixtures, lighting, and durable but pleasing floor and wall finishes are selected for a Pointe Kitchen and Bath project.

Originally located on The Hill, Dan's company quickly outgrew its space and has relocated to a larger facility on Harper Avenue at Avalon in St. Clair Shores. This location enables their project managers and design staff to closely coordinate each construction project or kitchen and bath installation. Connell consistently provides prompt and reliable service to its customers, and strives to exceed their expectation for quality, value and workmanship.

Because Connell Building is capable of executing many types of custom work, new construction or renovation, it sometimes receives a challenging request. Case-in-point: When the Grosse Pointe South Mothers Club needed an authentic stair rail to replace a modern version previously installed in Cleminson Hall, who did they turn to? Dan Connell. His company replicated and custom-milled the new, historically accurate railing and installed it with careful attention to detail at the



school. "People are not aware that I have these capabilities," Dan says. "We have also built many custom tables and beautiful pieces of furniture that meet the exact specifications of the designer or home owner."

Connell Building also performs work on commercial

Left, a custom wine cooler made for The Hill Restaurant. Above, a custom round table made by Elite Woodworking, a Connell company.



projects. In 2014 when The Hill Seafood & Chop House needed a builder to complete their renovation without fail in two weeks, it relied on Connell to perform under such an aggressive schedule. "We built everything in our shop in advance ready to deliver on time," says Dan. Even with executing design changes on the fly, Connell Building completed the renovation on time. "Successfully completing that job in two weeks," Dan recalls, was a satisfying and well-orchestrated effort between his construction management team and Elite.

Among its commercial clients, Elite Woodworking has an extensive list of business, industrial, and institutional customers, including hospitals. For its restaurant and retail

clients, it builds and ships custom booth seating and retail display cases to locations across the country.

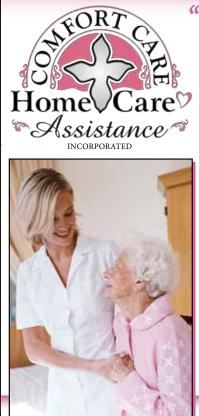
With his new company, Pointe Kitchen and Bath, Dan Connell is well-positioned

to showcase Elite's custom products and his premium line of wood cabinets, such as Bremtown, to the Grosse Pointe markets. He points out that because of his company's depth of resources and management team; he is capable of completing any project. It is not unusual for Connell and Elite to custommake a range hood or specialty piece as a mirror-match to a client's cabinetry.

Connell is very thankful for the opportunity to work within the community that has been part of his entire life. "I couldn't ask for better customers. I'm so fortunate to be able to work with such passionate and trusting people," says Dan. Whether you're looking to completely renovate your home, build new or want a kitchen remodel or any specialty wood piece, please consider Connell Building and Pointe Kitchen and Bath.

Pointe Kitchen and Bath, located at 21867 Harper in St. Clair Shores, is open by appointment only. To make an appointment, call (313) 882-5120. For more information, visit Connell's website at **www.connellbuildingcompany.com** or find them on Facebook.





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## POINTE | feature



## Tau Beta SpringMarket

Think Spring! Celebrate Tau Beta's 12th Annual Spring Market

atch 'Spring Market' fever and support Tau Beta and the Children's Center! More than 20 specialty boutiques from across the country will display their finest fashions, unique jewelry and home accents at Tau Beta's 12th Annual Spring Market April 23-25 at the Grosse Pointe Club.

All funds from this shopping extravaganza will be donated to the Children's Center of Detroit.

A Preview Party and Raffle will take place Thursday, April 23, from 6:30-9 p.m. Tickets are \$75 per person in advance and \$85 at the door.

The party will include cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a raffle drawing. Prizes include Ippolita mother of pearl diamond earrings set in 18K yellow gold donated by edmund t. AHEE jewelers; Detroit Tigers tickets in a luxury suite donated by the Cotton Family; a designer Neiman Marcus package; and an original oil painting by Jane McFeely. Raffle tickets are \$25 each or five for \$100.

Spring Market shopping takes



Spring Market chairs, Mollie Donaldson and Lil Rinke

place Friday, April 24, 9:30 a.m - 7 p.m. and Saturday, April 25, 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Guests can enjoy lunch (cash only) in the Spring Market café. Admission to the market is \$5.



New 2015 vendors include L. Horne Design and HAVERHILL Fine Jewelry. Some returning and popular vendors include the Clara Williams Company, Wilson & Weir home décor and Snappy Gator.

For more than 100 years, Tau Beta Association has promoted charitable and philanthropic projects and services to benefit the people of southeastern Michigan. Founded in 1901 as a non-profit organization, Tau Beta has supported numerous causes throughout its history.

In 2004, Tau Beta partnered with the Children's Center of Detroit. By offering volunteer and fundraising assistance, Tau Beta hopes to further the mission of the Children's Center: to help children and families shape their own future.

For more information about Spring Market shopping days, the Preview Party, vendors and much more, visit www.facebook.com/tbspringmarket or www.taubeta.org (click on Spring Market). Tau Beta's e-mail address is springmarket@taubeta.org.

## PONTE | landlord

## A good rental relationship

**By Anna Bartolotta** 

s more incentives arise for first-time home buyers, it is more important than ever to keep the tenants in your rental properties

happy. comfortable, and, most importantly, in place.

tenants are

probably the ones who

care for your



property and pay their rent on time and possibly may just have the means to purchase and move away from your investment. If these tenants are living up to their responsibilities with you and making you happy, you have a responsibility to them as well, for happiness. Turnover is generally the largest expense you will experience in your rental year; the idea is to keep that expense to a minimum, possibly at zero.

How do you respond to your tenants when they call you? What amenities are included in your monthly rent? How long does it take you, the landlord, to repair an issue or problem? Are there outside factors that are affecting either you or your tenant's happiness?

This is a business relationship, treat it as such, as you would any relationship that you would like to keep and continue.

With all of that being said, if your current tenant is determined to buy a home, all you can possibly do is congratulate them, shake their hand and wish them well.

Anna Bartolotta is owner of Grosse Pointe Apartments and Property Management. This area's only dedicated, full service, full time rental agency staffed with licensed agents.

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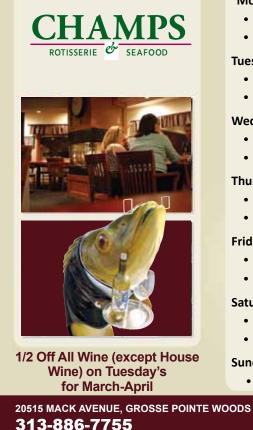


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Dressing for success

By Beth Newhart

ntrepreneurship runs deep in Kristine Anderson. Her grandmother started Radke Hardware in St. Clair Shores in the 1930s. Her father and brother started Macomb Bike and Fitness in 1976, and her aunt started Gilbert's Hardware in 1949. The latter two are still run by family members.

So it's no surprise that this Grosse Pointe Woods mother of two has struck out on her own and is honoring her father in the process. Last year, she began bottling and selling a piece



of her family legacy in the form of Papa Lou's Dressing, a balsamic vinaigrette that can be found on the shelves at Village Market and Fresh Farms Market. It is also the house balsamic at Telly's Place.

"As a kid, my parents made this dressing from scratch every single night," says Anderson. "We never made it ahead of time, only for the current day's consumption."



Although the recipe dates back several generations, Anderson's exact formula is her own creation.

Last March, Anderson came up with her idea, and with some help from consultants at Eastern Market, she began mixing, bottling, sealing and labeling her dressing in the commercial kitchen space she rented at First English Lutheran Church in the Woods. By the end of 2014, she sold 1,500 bottles using local stores, the Grosse Pointe Woods Farmers Market and social media.

She currently has capacity to produce 800 bottles per month and would like to sell 4,000 in 2015.

Her family is helping with her dream as well. Diagnosed with Stargardt disease in 1997, Anderson has been legally blind since 2005. Her husband, Johnny, and older son, Grant, are her chauffeurs and help her with reading. Her mother-in-law, Faye Anderson, worked with her at the Farmers Market over the summer, and her mother, Pat Radke, helps in the kitchen.

Father Lou Radke, her inspiration, is now suffering from late-stage Parkinson's disease and hasn't fully grasped what his daughter has created. Even so, she knows that one day she'll have a Papa Lou's factory in his honor.

"I see the assembly line in my head and it is as clear as the memories of so many wonderful, sentimental days spent with my dad in the kitchen."

Visit papalousdressing.com

## PONTE | health

## Summer travel

By Dr. Saima A. Khan

eople routinely ask me about vaccines when going abroad. The measles outbreak in Disneyland, however, reminds me that we should also revisit vaccinations for even domestic travel.

It's easy to cut your risk of travel-

related disease with just a bit of planning. Visit your doctor or Health Department at least six weeks before you plan to leave. The MMR vaccine will protect



against measles and the DtaP vaccine will cover whooping cough (pertussis) and tetanus. Adults need a tetanus booster every 10 years as well as one Pertussis booster if they are around children. There are also vaccines for Hepatitis A and Typhoid Fever, both of which are found in contaminated food and water important if you like to go "off the beaten path."

Hepatitis B can be acquired through body fluids, putting you at risk if you get a tattoo, piercing, have unprotected sex or you are in an accident with others. If adventurous vacations involving hiking in remote areas, or caving are in your future, consider a vaccine against rabies.

After you return home, it is still important to monitor how you feel; if you feel unwell for any reason, it is important to see your doctor and to inform her of your recent travel right away. If you travel anywhere malaria is a risk, be sure you finish all of your medication and monitor for fever for a full year. Enjoy both your travels and your health. Bon voyage!

Dr. Saima A. Khan, MD, MPH grew up in Grosse Pointe Farms and lives in the Woods with her husband and three daughters. She practices internal medicine in Warren, 28351 Schoenherr, (586) 393-6500.

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## Ardmore Cafe — a St. Clair Shores Gem

## 26717 Little Mack, St. Clair Shores • (586) 443-4597

Come dine in an atmosphere that is relaxing and comfortable. For lunch we have an array of salads, sandwiches and hot entrees and new specials daily. Some of our wonderful dinner menu items include steaks, lamb chops, stuffed salmon and much more. Dinner specials now include 1/2 roasted duck, lobster tails, surf and turf and evening specials. We offer beer, wine and cocktails from our full bar. Hark back to the time when dining was an elegant, relaxing affair. What better place than the historic Ardmore Park Place? Our next 6-course Wine Tasting Dinner is Wednesday, March 25, 7-10 p.m., featuring a **Spring-themed fare**. Cost is \$69.50 (tax and gratuity included). Make reservations early as seating is limited. Ardmore Cafe is also featuring its **2 for \$40** special every Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening, 5-9 p.m., in March, offering live entertaiment and a full bar. Finally, you won't want to miss enjoying a fine libation in our **"Piano Lounge"** during dining hours, 6-9 p.m., featuring pianists Don Farrah on Thursdays and Saturdays and Pam Kruczek on Fridays. Book your wedding or baby showers, rehearsal dinners and birthday parties with us. We will take care of all your banquet needs. We are located on Little Mack in St. Clair Shores, just north of Frazho Road (10 1/2 Mile). Ardmore Park Place — it's more than dining; it's a shopping experience.

Hours: Lunch: Tue-Sat 11am-4pm; Dinner: Thurs-Sat 5-9pm Web: www.ardmoreparkplace.com





## **Blufin Sushi**

## 18584 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Farms • (313) 332-0050

Blufin is located on Mack just south of Moross. We have a great atmosphere in a cozy setting. At Blufin, we offer fresh, healthy foods using only the finest ingredients. We offer a wide variety of sushi, including our signature rolls like the Blufin, Las Vegas and Grosse Pointer made with only the freshest Alaskan King Crab. All our rolls are plated with amazing artistry, led by head sushi chef Lucky. Also on our menu are entrees such as Japanese fried chicken, ahi tuna, Mongolian Beef, fried rice and tempura vegetable. Blufin Sushi has so many items to choose from we can't list them all. We also offer salads, soups, sliders, desserts and a kids menu consisting of chicken fingers, grilled chicken, fish tacos, etc. We now have our liquor license serving sake, wine, beer and cocktails. \$250 Reservation fee up to 6 guests. \$ covers food and drink.

#### WHO NEEDS CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE WHEN YOU HAVE SUSHI! JOIN US FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

Hours: Mon-Thurs 11:30am-10pm, Fri-Sat 11:30am-11pm, Sun 3-8pm Happy Hour: Mon-Thurs 2:30pm-5:30pm & 9pm-close Web: WWW.BLUFINSUSHI.COM





## **Champs Rotisserie & Seafood**

## 20515 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods • (313) 886-7755

Champs is located on Mack just three streets south of Vernier. Our soups, sauces and dressings are made daily using only the freshest ingredients from Michigan companies when possible. Champs is known for its Rotisserie Ribs and Chicken, served with our homemade BBQ sauce for which Champs has been known for the past 40 years since it was the BBQ House of Grosse Pointe. We also offer an exquisite variety of seafood, salad entrees, sandwiches, appetizers and a full children's menu. We also offer daily specials that we have become known for. For those warm nights, enjoy our patio with a big screen TV or you may choose to stay inside and snuggle by our beautiful fireplace. With this unique atmosphere, comes a full-service bar to make your dining experience complete. We have a great selection of Michigan-made vodka, gin and bourbon, and we will soon be getting Michigan beers by the bottle. Call ahead on those busy days for a carry-out. Our specially designed carry-out boxes will ensure your food gets home fresh and hot. We will cater your next event. Call and speak to one of our catering specialists after 4 p.m. Order off our catering menu or create your own.

Hours: Mon-Thurs 4-10pm, Fri-Sat 4-11pm, Sun 3-10pm Web: www.champsrotisserie.com





## **City Kitchen**

## 16844 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe • (313) 882-6667

Located in the heart of The Village, City Kitchen prides itself on being a unique neighborhood eatery that serves quality fare in an upscale, yet relaxed and casual setting, as well as carry-out and on- and off-site catering. The restaurant offers fresh seafood from Foley Fish Co., Boston's famous fish house, as well as Great Lakes perch, pickerel and Lake Superior whitefish delivered daily. From the grill, try "Certified Angus Beef" New York strip or tenderloin steaks and some of the best burgers in town. Also enjoy seasonal salads, desserts, appetizers and wood-fired pizza. Join us at our NEW BAR for Happy Hour Monday-Friday from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. and enjoy your favorite cocktail, beer or wine of your choice at our special Happy Hour pricing.

## **CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN OUR FABULOUS NEW BAR!**

## Hours: Lunch: Mon-Fri 11:30am-3:30pm

Dinner: Mon-Thurs 4:30-9:30pm, Fri 4:30-10pm, Sat 5-10pm, Sun 4-9pm Web: www.city-kitchen.com





Photo by Donald Schulte

## **Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe**

## 97 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms • (313) 882-5299

Winner of Hour Detroit Magazine awards for 2010 Restaurant of the Year and Best Chef 2010 and 2011, the Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe features top quest musicians and award-winning food. Two-time "Best Chef" winner André Neimanis offers an American bistro menu in a well-appointed. 65-seat dining room with white-linen round tables surrounded by red-fabric walls with dark wood, wainscoting, Tudor carriage lights and dogthemed paintings and sculptures. Favorites include Fork and knife burger with foie gras, short rib bolognese, smoked tomato soup with Brie toast and Creekstone Farms filet mignon to name a few! Live jazz Tuesday through Saturday evenings offers patrons a unique and memorable experience (reservations are strongly recommended). Private dining is available for up to 25 people in The Boardroom, which also features full meeting and conference capabilities.







## Harry's of Grosse Pointe

## 15506 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park • (313) 885-1481

Harry's of Grosse Pointe ... the place to go for a great meal in a relaxed, laid-back atmosphere. Enjoy all your favorite "comfort foods" in a traditional diner setting. Harry's has been a staple in Grosse Pointe for over three decades and features classic American fare. We offer an array of daily homemade specials, omelettes, sandwiches, soups, salads and much more, Harry's always has fresh-brewed Cadillac coffee ready to pour. Whether you are dining alone, with friends and family or are looking for a spot for your club or meeting group in our 25-seat private room, Harry's experienced staff will make you feel like a part of the family. Carry-outs available by calling (313) 885-1481, or fax your order to (313) 885-9207.

FREE. ON-SITE PARKING AS WELL AS AN ADJACENT MUNICIPAL METERED LOT.

Hours: 7 days — 7:30am-4pm



## **Higher Grounds**

## 15324 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park • (313) 822-3823

#### **Breakfast Made to Order-\$5**

2 fresh eggs, bacon or sausage, hash browns or grits and toast. Breakfast sandwiches available too!

#### All Sandwiches-Grilled or Cold-\$5

Tuna, Grilled Chicken, Ham, Turkey, BLT, Grilled Cheese, Black Bean Burger, "Cue the Avocado" Wrap and Veggie Wrap. Add a pop and chips for \$2. Fresh, Crisp Salads Made to Order \$5 Add chicken, steak or tuna for \$1 more. Smoothies \$4-\$6 Fair trade, organic coffee fresh roasted in Detroit:

Soup of the Day Bowl \$4 Cup \$2

Lattes, mocha, cappuccino, Espresso, American & Red Eye, Hot or Iced!

Wi-Fi is available! We can also accommodate small meetings/workshops after hours. For more information on renting space for your event, please call (313) 822-3823.

Hours: Mon-Fri 6:30am-3pm; Sat 8am-2pm; closed Sunday Web: www.highergroundsministries.com



## 18666 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Farms • (313) 881-5675

Irish Coffee Bar and Grill has been a staple on Mack Avenue in Grosse Pointe Farms for 33 years, notable for their fantastic bar burgers (1/3 lb ground rounds) and numerous coffee cocktails. Three high-definition TVs make this neighborhood bar a great place to watch the game. Swing by after the game or any entertainment event in the area, bring your ticket stub and your burger is only \$1.96! The daily lunch special is the best in town: dine-in between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. and for \$5.95 have a ground round, fries and your choice of beverage (domestic draft beer or pop). This is also good for a fish sandwich or a grilled chicken sandwich. This family-owned restaurant is a great spot for young and old, and there is something on the menu for everyone. The homemade onion rings are a local favorite, and the fresh, hand-battered yellow-belly perch is particularly popular among seafood lovers. Numerous corned-beef sandwiches top off the menu with a true, Irish flare. The grill is open until 1 a.m., seven days a week! Hope to see you there!

## 💑 IRISH COFFEE ... WHERE ELSE ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY?! 🗞

Hours: Mon-Sat 11am-2am; Sun 5pm-2am



VISA





## Luxe Bar & Grill

## 115 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms • (313) 924-5459

Luxe is the neighborhood spot that serves quality food, drink and atmosphere — without pretense. Hospitality is our passion — quality and taste are the priority. We believe the character of a bar is its patrons, and we welcome all seeking food, company and friendly conversation to enjoy our charmed local bar. An eclectic menu features fantastic Prime Burgers on homemade brioche buns, as well as scratch soups, salads and entrées, including chicken, salmon, lamb chops and steaks in a variety of different daily preparations. Chef Christina Stanco embraces various elements of traditional and new American cuisine.

**CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY WITH US!** 

Hours: Daily 11am-1am (Kitchen closes at midnight.) Web: www.luxebarandgrill.com





## **Mack Avenue Grille**

Hours: Mon-Sat 7am-8pm, Sun 8am-3pm

## 19841 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods • (313) 886-0680

As the Mack Avenue Grille enters its fourth year under the ownership of veteran restaurateurs Louie and Dino Ropotos, they would like to kick things up a notch to the compliment the fine wines and premium beers they began offering last year. The brothers are adding some new fine dining dishes to their menu, including panseared and broiled Alaskan Cod, broiled Salmon, Classic Lamb Chops, Chicken Piccata and Chicken Marsala and more to their standard fare, including 31 gourmet salads and breakfast favorites, such as the ever-popular Very Berry Crème Brûlée French Toast. And true to their heritage, the Ropotos Brothers are announcing Saturday evening **GREEK NIGHT**, featuring all classic and favorite dishes. Of course, they are not forgetting what made Mack Avenue Grille more than a diner. They will continue to offer three homemade soups du jour or freshly homemade chili daily, burgers and all manner of diner sandwiches, fresh-squeezed orange juice and three-egg, whipped omelets of all combinations. All ingredients are fresh — no frozen fish here! We now serve beer and wine to enhance your dining experience! Spirits coming soon!





Photo by Donald Schulte

## **Morning Glory Coffee & Pastries**

## 85 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms • (313) 647-0298

It's Grosse Pointe Farms' newest "go-to" hot spot! Morning Glory Coffee & Pastries' menu boasts everything from fresh breads, torts, cakes and pies from its full-service bakery to soups, salads, paninis and flat breads. A standout for the coffee shop is its liquor license — guests may enjoy specialty coffee drinks such as Spanish Coffee, wine by the glass, or even a "spiked" lemonade! Stop in early for that first fresh brewed "cuppa" with a homemade pastry and come back for a Mediterranean Veggie Wrap and house-made soup for lunch.

Hours: Mon-Sat 6am-6pm; Sun 9am-3pm Web: www.MorningGloryGrossePointe.com





## **Pepperoni Grille**

## 22411 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores • (586) 774-3998

As its name implies, Pepperoni Grille is a cheerful spot set in a welcome, casual atmosphere. The eatery features a small bar and dining room on one side of the central open kitchen, and a second dining room on the other side. It offers notable pizza along with a number of popular dishes from Calamari, Chicken Picatta and Lake Michigan Perch to Filet Mignon and New York Strip Steaks and Baby Back Ribs. The staff is friendly and courteous. The full bar offers wine, liquor and beer. Our Reverse Happy Hour from 8 p.m. to close 7 days features \$2 domestic beers, \$5 martinis and 1/2-off appetizers. Tuesday is half-off pizza all day, dine in or carry out. Wednesdays feature two signature pasta dishes and a bottle of wine \$38.

Hours: Mon 4-10pm; Tues-Thurs 11am-10pm; Fri 11am-11pm; Sat noon-11pm; Sun 3-9pm Web: www.pepperonigrillescs.com





## **Red Crown**

## 15301 Kercheval Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park • (313) 822-3700

**Red Crown:** an American comfort food (with a twist) restaurant, specializing in a nostalgic element of cooking that equates to yummy goodness. Red crown's beverage program is all about the art of crafting. Craft cocktails, craft beers, craft wines. Our bartenders are artisans too, handcrafting cocktails, using the freshest and highest quality ingredients. Our beers are artisanal brews from the great state of Michigan, while our all-American wine program focuses on smaller production boutique wineries. In addition to our bottle programs, we offer artisanal beer and wine on tap, keeping our glass pours fresh to the very last drop. At Red Crown, we put the spotlight on service and hospitality. Our goal is to for you, our guest, to feel welcome and well taken care of — kind of like being asked over to a friend's house for dinner. We really want all aspects of your visit to red crown to be remembered as something comfortable and filled with yummy goodness. Whether you are looking for something a bit nostalgic or hoping to find something unique and new, we invite you to join us for an afternoon or evening at Red Crown! Join us for brunch Sunday morning or dinner Sunday night!

## Hours: Tue-Thur: Lunch 11:30am-4pm; Dinner 4-10pm

Fri-Sat: Lunch 11:30am-4 pm; Dinner 4pm-11pm Sun: Brunch: 10am-4pm; Dinner 4-9pm Closed Monday Web: www.redcrowngp.com





## **Salvatore Scallopini**

## 19655 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods • (313) 886-3350

Welcome to Salvatore Scallopini with crafted offerings of Authentic Italian Cuisine. We are proud to serve real Italian food with grace and style never compromising on quality. We offer both classic and modern choices all made from authentic ingredients. Our restaurant is further distinguished by its outstanding wine list, while the full service bar features a variety of imported and domestic spirits and beers. At Salvatore Scallopini we are dedicated to providing a memorable dining experience, a warm, relaxing ambiance is perfect for bringing the whole family in for a big Italian feast or an intimate setting for those quiet moments with that special someone. Whatever your preference, come experience the exceptional dishes made from secret Bongiovanni family recipes. With 6 locations in Southeastern Michigan, we're sure you'll find the most convenient for you.



VISA

Hours: Mon-Thurs 11am-10pm; Fri 11am-10:30pm; Sat Noon-10:30pm; Sun Noon-9pm Web: www.salvatorescallopini.com

## **Sierra Station La Cantina**

## 15110 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park • (313) 822-1270

The Sierra Station was established in 1977 and has transformed into a favorite Grosse Pointe Park destination. The Sierra Station prides itself as a family-style Mexican restaurant, offering affordable dinners. Most impressive is the food! Few restaurants survive 36 years unless they have great food. The entrée menu features more than 30 dishes served with the standard rice and beans. House specialties are the Verda Sauce and Chili Relleno. It is one of the few places you can sit down, eat authentic Mexican food, have a Margarita, enjoy the South-of-the-Border ambience and bric-a-brac and let your kids run free. The patio veranda is an ideal space to throw your wedding party, family celebration or business luncheon. Prefer an indoor setting for your event? Sierra Station has a private dining room filled with beautiful authentic decorated space capable of setting 40 guests. Join us on Thursdays for \$2 Margaritas. Carry-outs available.

#### El día de Santo Patricio!

Hours: Lunch: Thurs-Fri 11:30am-1:30pm Dinner: Open daily at 5pm Web: www.sierrastationgp.com







## Steve's Backroom

## 24317 Jefferson, St Clair Shores • (586) 774-9337

Since the 1980s, Steve's Backroom has been providing quality Mediterranean Cuisine. Old World recipes are prepared under the careful eye of Bouchra Raffoul. Many traditional favorites, such as Stuffed Grape Leaves, Cabbage Rolls, Lamb Kabobs, Chicken Tawook, Fattosh Salad, Steve's Backroom Chicken Salad and the more popular Steve Salad with homemade Pomegranate dressing, just to name a few. In 2010, Steve's won the Small Business Award from the Macomb Region of the Small Business Administration, and in 2012 Macomb Daily readers awarded Steve's as its favorite Middle Eastern restaurant. Steve's bakes fresh pita bread for dine-in customers, and serves a limited pizza menu baked in a stone oven. A full bar is available as well as a banquet room that seats up to 40. Carry out catering is available. Steve's also serves breakfast seven days a week starting at 8 a.m.

## OUR BANQUET ROOM SEATS UP TO 40 AND IS PERFECT FOR BRIDAL PARTIES!

Hours: Mon-Thurs 8am-9pm; Fri-Sat 8am-9:30pm; Sun 8am-8pm Web: stevesbackroomjefferson.com



## **The Hill Seafood and Chop House**

## 123 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms • (313) 886-8101 • (313) 886-9653

Approaching its 15th year, The Hill is the premier dining destination on the East Side. Recently renovated, The Hill continues to deliver an exceptional dining experience. Menus are seasonally updated. Don't worry, the Hill of Perch is still there! Popular menu items include Allen Brothers® USDA Prime New York Strip Steaks and Burgers, wild caught seafood, and Zingerman's Desserts. Whether you're planning a special celebration or just looking for a great burger and fries, The Hill will exceed your expectations. The vibrant bar scene offers Happy Hour Monday-Thursday, 5-7 p.m., featuring 1/2 Off Domestic Beer and Wine, \$5 "Hill Martinis" and \$7 Appetizers. **Online reservations powered by OpenTable now offered at www.thehillgrossepointe.com!** 



VISA

Hours: Lunch: Mon-Sat 11:30am-3pm Dinner: Mon-Thurs 5-10pm, Fri-Sat 5-11pm; Closed Sunday. Web: www.thehillgrossepointe.com

## **The Rattlesnake Club**

## 300 River Place Drive, Detroit • (313) 567-4400

Locally Grown since 1988. Watch "Bon Appetit, Detroit," our new cooking video series in partnership with Eastern Market, on our website! Detroit's finest riverfront dining experience celebrates over 25 years of innovative cuisine and outstanding service in our exquisite setting. We take pride in providing diners with an unparalleled, unforgettable culinary experience. Memories are made here as Executive Chef Chris Franz and his renowned team creatively prepare the highest quality local and seasonal foods using Prime Certified Angus Beef and non-farmed, sustainably-harvested seafood. The wine list shines with rare and boutique wines as well as an extensive craft beer list which complements a bar stocked with the finest local-to-global products. The award-winning restaurant's elegant dining rooms offer picturesque views of the Detroit and Windsor skylines, and in the warm weather months, the lovely Garden Terrace is a lush retreat. The Rattlesnake Club's beautifully appointed private dining rooms add an intimate ambiance to special celebrations and meetings, and the Stroh River Place Atrium, with its breathtaking blend of marble, brick & glass, is the ideal setting for corporate functions, vehicle displays and charity auctions. The Rattlesnake's stunning riverfront patio sets the stage for lavish wedding ceremonies and receptions. We'll see you at the 'Snake!

## ST. PATRICK DIDN'T GET ALL THE 'SNAKES...JOIN US ON HIS DAY!

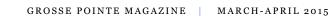
Hours: Tues-Thurs 11:30am-10pm; Fri 11:30am-11pm; Sat 5:30-11pm Happy Hour: Thurs&Fri 4-7pm Web: www.rattlesnakedetroit.com



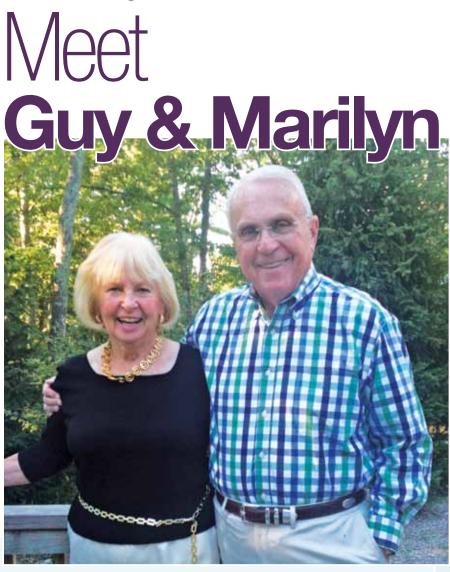


Photo by The Rattlesnake Club/Joe Vaughn





## POINTE | senior personalities



#### What was your first job?

Guy started delivering newspapers at the age of nine and Marilyn started babysitting soon after.

What is one thing you miss about being a kid? Guy says nothing, while Marilyn misses being with her twin sister.

## What is the best trip you've ever taken?

We lived in Italy with our boys when they were young. A priceless experience.

## Do you collect anything?

No, to the contrary, we have found peace in getting rid of 'stuff.'

#### What is the most historical day in your lifetime? The day we were married. We have never forgotten

it and our lives changed forever. What accomplishment are you most proud of?

Not proud of, but most satisfying is trying to be of help to others. Everyone doing a little adds up to a lot.

#### What's one thing you'd like to learn? Being fluent in French and Italian.

Name	Guy and Marilyn Doyal
Age	80 and 78

**City** Grosse Pointe Woods

**Occupation** Guy: retired pediatric psychologist; Marilyn: retired registered nurse

## Guy and Marilyn's **Favorites**

#### Season

Guy prefers the temperature and beauty of fall while Marilyn prefers the beginning of life in spring.

## Book

Guy has seldom read a book that wasn't his favorite. Marilyn choose the Bible.

#### Movie

Guy's is *A Place in the Sun* and Marilyn has too many to list.

#### **Musical Artist**

Both love the DSO, MOT, liturgical music at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church and 1940s-50s West Coast Jazz (The Cool School). **Restaurant** 

#### Restaurant

The Park at the Rivers

## Dessert

Guy is always on the look for chocolate while Marilyn prefers kale (just kidding).

## About Guy & Marilyn

Married 57 years, Guy and Marilyn are the proud parents of Tom, Greg, Mark and Brian.

While Guy worked as a pediatric psychologist and Marilyn as a registered nurse, she was also a mother and homemaker. "She worked like a man in the field and a woman at home," says Guy. Both enjoy golf, music, reading and movies. Guy likes to fish and Marilyn enjoys gardening.

"After owning a house for over 50 years we moved to The RIVERS of Grosse Pointe. We were tired of the work that went into maintaining a house and did not want to move from the Grosse Pointes we cherish. Now we feel emancipated and only do what we want to do. Having a warm, friendly and helpful staff cater to our needs is like living in a fine hotel. We are also secure in knowing that when one of us needs additional service or treatment it is here for us and we won't be separated. We have given our children the gift of being positioned for the next stage of our life's journey together."

## How to initiate family discussions

## By Terri Murphy

am often asked, "How do I initiate a conversation with my parents to address

the concerns that I have?" This is not an easy thing to do, but it must be done if you are concerned for a loved one's safety and wellbeing.



Start discussions

early before you are in the middle of a crisis.

• Include all family members.

• Explain your purpose for initiating the conversation. Make sure that they know you want to make decisions with them and not for them.

• Understand that they control their own life. They have the right to make their own decisions. Give them choices.

• Agree to disagree. Their wishes should prevail unless their health or safety is in jeopardy.

• Communicate effectively. Offer options and not advice.

• Ask about their records and documentation.

• Always be respectful. Treat your loved ones with love and respect.

Discussing your concerns with your loved one is never an easy thing to do. However, when their safety is in jeopardy, these difficult things must be addressed. If they will not agree to any changes in their situation and you are worried about their safety, you must take action. You can be firm about the necessity for action, but still give them options so that they are in charge of the final decision.

Terri Murphy is the owner of Certified Senior Solutions. CSS provides consulting services to seniors and their families, helping them develop a care plan that works best for their situation and connecting them with the appropriate resources to implement that plan. Call (313) 881-4600 or visit www.certified-ssi.com.





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Certified Senior Solutions, LLC is a professional elder care assistance program, helping families find solutions to their senior care needs. Every senior's situation is different, and so is the information we offer to each family. Our senior advisors provide situation-specific advice to families on topics including:

#### Senior Housing Choices

- Independent Living Communities
- Assisted Living Communities
- Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Memory Care Communities
- Adult Foster Homes

#### Aging in Place

- In-Home Caregiving
- Community Based In-Home Services
- In-Home Nursing Care
- In-Home Physical Therapy
- In-Home Physician Services

## (313) 881-4600

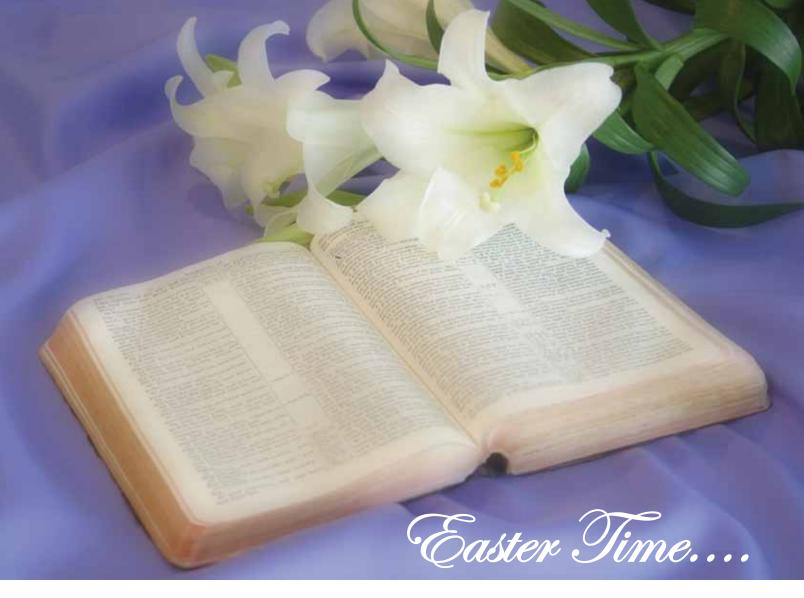
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#### **A** Financial and Estate Planning

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aster, which celebrates Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead, is Christianity's most important holiday. Easter Sunday marks the end of Lent, which is a 40-day period of fasting and reflection.

It has been referred to as a moveable feast because unlike most holidays it does not fall on a set date every year. In fact, since the 16th century, there have been differences in the calculation of Easter between the Western and Eastern Churches.

So, how is the Easter date determined? The date depends on the ecclesiastical approximation of the March equinox.

The Roman Catholic Church since 1583 has been using March 21 under the Gregorian calendar to calculate the date of Easter, while the Eastern Orthodox continued and continue to use March 21 under the Julian calendar. The Catholic and Protestant denominations thus use an ecclesiastical full moon that occurs four to five days earlier than the Eastern one.

In 325 A.D. the Council of Nicaea established that Easter would be held on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox. From that point forward, the Easter date depended on the ecclesiastical approximation of March 21 for the vernal equinox.

Easter is delayed by one week if the full moon is on Sunday, which decreases the chances of it falling on the same day as the Jewish Passover.

## Dates for Easter 2015 - 2025 In Gregorian dates

Year	Western	Eastern
2015	April 5	April 12
2016	March 27	May 1
2017	April 16	
2018	April 1	April 8
2019	April 21	April 28
2020	April 12	April 19
2021	April 4	May 2
2022	April 17	April 24
2023	April 9	April 16
2024	March 31	May 5
2025	April 20	

## He is...lam So What?

Easter Sunday, April 5 - May 31 9:00 and 11:10am

Good Friday April 3 7:00pm Childcare available

Sundays | 9:00 & 11:10am Bring the whole family! Kids love our fun, engaging programs (birth thru grade 8)



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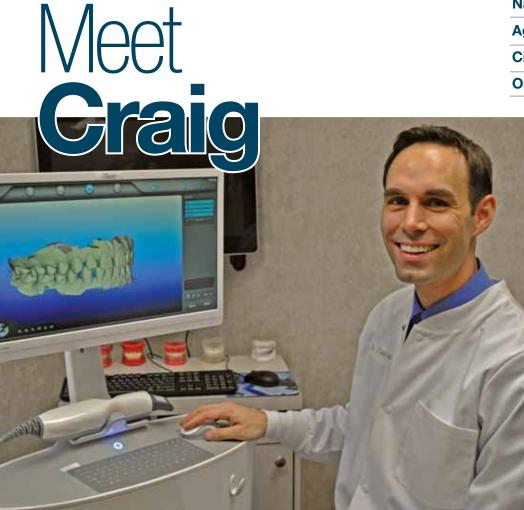
LENTEN BUFFET DINNERS

21001 Moross Rd. Detroit, 48236 313.882.3000 | gracewired.com

Every Friday during Lent, February 20th through April 3rd, from 5 to 9 pm.

The ARK is located at Wayburn and Hampton, next to St. Ambrose Church in Grosse Pointe Pk. • (313) 822-2814





#### What was your first job?

Math tutor during high school and Grosse Pointe Shores Department of Public Works the summer before college.

#### Why did you want to become an orthodontist?

As an engineer, I especially enjoyed biomedical engineering. I wanted to become an orthodontist so I could incorporate engineering with a healthcare career having a direct impact on my patients by developing healthy, life-changing smiles.

#### If you weren't an orthodontist, what would you be?

Career in occupational biomechanics/ergonomics

#### What is your next goal?

Educating the metro Detroit area about the value that orthodontists such as myself offer in using cutting edge technology to efficiently deliver high quality, beautiful smiles to our patients.

#### What is the best feedback you've received?

It was an honor when a patient's parent shared with me that I influenced their child to pursue a career in orthodontics.

## Tell us something about you that most people don't know.

I started a father-son charity golf outing at my University of Michigan fraternity which benefited the Ozone House in Ann Arbor, a non-profit group for kids with broken families.

## Words to live by?

Be kind, be true, love what you do.

Name	Dr. Craig T. Hadgis
Age	35
City	Grosse Pointe Woods
Occupation Orthodontist	

## Hadgis Orthodontics

"With an engineering background, I take pride in incorporating the latest advanced orthodontic technologies, including 3-D computer imaging and treatment systems, into my practice to ensure the best possible outcomes for my patients.

Using an intraoral scanner to provide the most accurate representation of a patient's teeth, I develop customized 3-D treatment plans for orthodontic brackets and clear aligners.

Also, I am one of only a few hundred orthodontists in the world to combine the latest technologies, such as robotically bent orthodontic wires, with the technical skills necessary to efficiently and effectively achieve healthy, beautiful smiles for my patients."

## About Craig

Born and raised in Grosse Pointe, Craig's family background includes three generations in the dental field. "Both of my grandfathers worked as dental technicians and my father has been a comprehensive dentist in Grosse Pointe for many years.

"I feel fortunate every day to have the opportunity to give back to the community which gave me my start."

Craig is married to Anne, a nurse also from Michigan. In his free time, Craig enjoys sports, fitness, travel and spending time with friends and family.

## Accountability

By Ken Welch

need someone to be accountable to ... or else I won't work out." I hear that a lot from people in regards to exercise. "If I didn't have you waiting for me I wouldn't be here today," they say to the trainer. A person

comes in to get a gym membership saying, "my doctor told me I'm going to die early if I don't start working out; guess I better."



Having someone they

have to answer to relinquishes control and leaves it to the one supposedly making them work out. An exercise class where people are perhaps waiting for you and missing you if you don't show up is another example of feeling responsible to someone else.

When you do show up there's usually some sort of praise or attaboy for making it. In some ways it's like winning a race and getting a medal and having people cheer your accomplishment. You won and really; who wouldn't want that? If you're new to exercise this can be a good motivator, but for workout longevity you need to be your own cheering section.

You need to develop accountability to yourself, not others. If you don't find a way to ignite your own fire your fire's going out. Here are a few ideas;

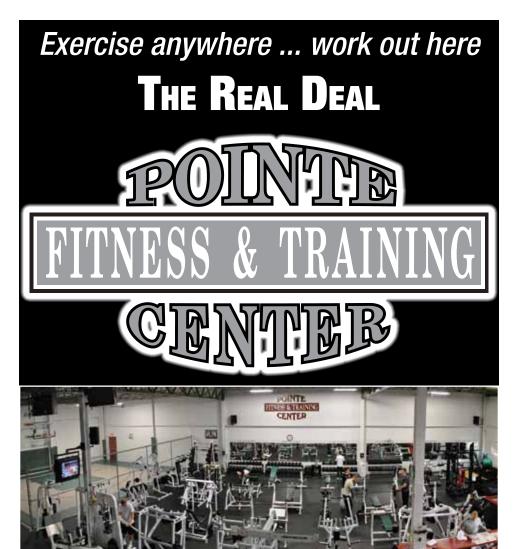
• Write down what you did after your workout is over not before.

If you have to skip a day or so because of "stuff," do it. If you feel bad about that, great!

• Learn to fly solo. Ultimately you're the most reliable one to workout with.

• Take pride in the fact you're among the only 22% of the country that works out regularly.

Ken Welch is owner and trainer at Pointe Fitness on Harper south of Allard. Online: pointefitness.com.



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## COOKING with CHEF ETHAN STEINER Childhood favorite, mac and cheese

 rowing up the 'blue box' mac
 and cheese was a staple in our house.

My brothers and I loved when my mom made it for us. We were always so busy with sports that it was a great go-to meal. However, as we got older, the blue box didn't quite cut it!

With the arrival of spring comes baseball, soccer, lacrosse and the

#### White Cheddar Mac and Cheese

#### Ingredients

**1 box** macaroni noodles, cooked to al dente

2 cups sharp cheddar cheese, grated
2 cups white cheddar cheese, grated
2-1/2 cups milk

**1 tsp** salt

activities we have been waiting all winter long to enjoy outdoors! Many parents will be running kids to their practices and games and need a quick meal for their families.

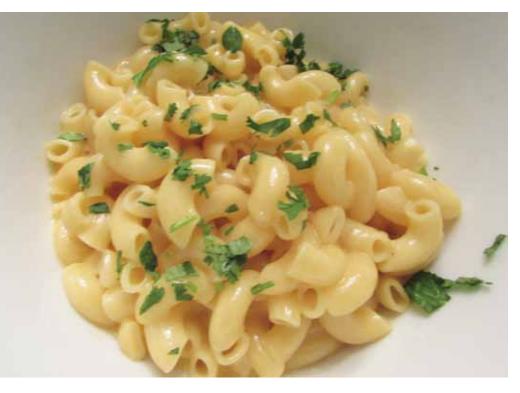
This mac and cheese recipe is a classic made with sharp and white cheddar cheeses.

What's nice about this recipe is its versatility. It works beautifully

**1 tsp** cayenne pepper Panko breadcrumbs (enough to cover the top of the dish)

#### Directions

- 1. Preheat oven to 325F
- 2. Heat the milk in a medium saucepan over medium-high heat until it just comes to a simmer





as both a creamy stovetop dish with any sort of mix-ins you like, and as a crunchy baked mac and cheese sprinkled with panko breadcrumbs.

It can be made ahead of time to be heated when needed. It is a very simple recipe that can be custom made to everyone's liking and turns us grownups back into little kids! Enjoy!

- 3. While whisking constantly, slowly add the cheese to the milk
- 4. Return the saucepan to medium heat and while whisking constantly, cook until the sauce thickens, about 2-3 minutes. Stir in salt and cayenne pepper
- 5. Add the cooked pasta and continue cooking, stirring occasionally until the pasta is heated through, about 2-4 minutes
- 6. Transfer mac and cheese into a baking dish and sprinkle with panko breadcrumbs
- 7. Bake for approximately 25-30 minutes, until bubbling and brown on top

Chef Ethan Steiner, a 2008 graduate of De La Salle Collegiate High School, graduated from Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts with an Associates of Occupational Studies Degree in Culinary Arts and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Culinary Management in Las Vegas.

After working the Las Vegas hotel circuit, Steiner decided to return to Michigan. He has worked with, and for, Chef Jose Andres, Chef John Hilton, Chef Rick Moonen, Chef Gordon Ramsay and Chef Wolfgang Puck. Today, Steiner is Sous Chef at Antietam in Detroit Eastern Market in Detroit. Follow him on twitter@Chef Ethan.

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### POINTE | feature



### By Lauren McGregor

ounded with Gordon Nelson's vision to provide the community with outstanding choral music, the Detroit Concert Choir (DCC) concludes its 28th season this May.

Housed in Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church and with rehearsals at Grosse Pointe North for over 20 years, the choir's roots have long been in Grosse Pointe.

Executive Director Christine Rouce says of her father, Nelson, DCC founder and Artistic Director Emeritus, "He was always an eastsider. He first started off at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church then moved to Grosse Pointe Presbyterian Church in 1996."

Their 28 years of experience have earned them 18 national and international awards, the most notable being the prestigious title of "Choir of the World," awarded at the 1996 Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales.

The international element of the choir trascends its competitions and repertoire to the membership itself.

DCC member Alan Cooper sang in England's Greater Manchester Police Male Voice Choir for 13 years. After moving to the United States, he joined the DCC in 1996, under the urging of Greater Manchester Police Choir conductor Robin Mundy. Mundy had heard the DCC perform in Sligo, Ireland. Their rendition of "The Pasture" brought him to tears.

Undoubtedly, Cooper's ties to his old choir aided the DCC in their triumph as Choir of the World. Upon landing in the UK for the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod, the DCC received a rare opportunity.

"Robin invited us to sing with



the police choir," Cooper says. That experience made all the difference.

Instead of performing at the competition first and touring second, as most choirs do, the DCC first performed with the police choir, who was more attune to the entertainment element of singing and connecting with the audience in a way that the Welsh would truly appreciate.

"We learned from the police's entertainment," Cooper says. "It calmed the Americans down before going on to Wales."

The performance, comprised of about 30 Manchester members and 70 DCC members, took place in front of a standing room crowd, where DCC members learned to cultivate their connection with the audience. It worked brilliantly. The choir went on to Llangollen, prepared both technically and emotionally.

"We didn't just win Choir of the World," Cooper says. "What we also won was the hearts and minds of the Welsh" — The Welsh, who after the competition invited the American DCC to perform in their pubs and community centers, a true sign of acceptance and respect in a country whose national identity is intertwined with the art.

Other international competitions the DCC has participated in include Norwich-Sligo International Choral Festival in Ireland, Tolosa Choral Contest in Spain, Spittal an der Drau International Choral Contest in Austria and Seghizzi International Choral Competition in Italy.

"We've sung in 30 to 40 languages and dialects," Rouce says. "We've always had international themes because music is an international language."

The DCC hosts teachers from around the world. "Teachers from Africa to Japan to Brazil to Israel and beyond have visited to teach our choir," she says.

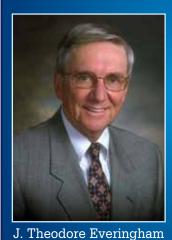
Today, the DCC consists of 70 singers, some of whom have been members since 1987. Their current performances still boast an international repertoire, from contemporary a cappela and sacred music to American folk and gospel to chorus and orchestra masterpieces.

"When we're bad, we sound good. When we're good, we can compete with the rest of the world and win," Cooper concludes.

Two shows remain for the DCC's 28th season, with one in Grosse Pointe. Purchase tickets online to witness the internationally acclaimed choir.

Brahms: A German Requiem at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts Sunday, March 29, 3 p.m. Celebrate America at St. Paul on the Lake Saturday, May 16, 7:30 p.m. Purchase tickets at detroitconcertchoir.org





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### Racing for Kids Aug. 27 @ Northern Trust on The Hill



Alaine and Sam Bush and Mary Wells



Suzie Starnes and Mike LeFevre



**Ray Crawford, Eitel Dahm and Bob Trobee** 



John, Natalie and Millie Simon and Diane and Ron Carrier



**Becky Brayton and Sam Rhue** 



Hillary Butcher, Elizabeth and Chace Wakefield and Alexis DeLuca

### Chamber Business Exchange Nov. 6 @ Grosse Pointe War Memorial



**Emma Snyder and Elizabeth Maksout** 



Dr. Sandra Robinson and Denis Karic



George McMullen, Dan Jensen, Fred Ollison, Paul Rentenbach, Ted Everingham and Jack Liang



John Stoyka and Dave Hohlfeldt



Ted Everingham, Kathleen Mullins, Sandy **Baruah and Jennifer Boettcher** 

**Buchanan and Sarah Tuxbury** 

### GPW Beautification Fundraiser Nov. 7 @ War Memorial

#### Photos by John Minnis



**Al and Corinne Dickinson** 



Dennis Hyduk, Todd McConaghy, Mary Hyduk and Bruce Anderson



Jake and Molly Westerman and Beth and Matthew Rainbolt



Mark Fosse, Jeri Unger, Annie Warnez and Rob Nederhood



Stacy and Steve Francis and Maria Nederhood



Valerie Ellis, Elizabeth Sonaglia and Mark and Sandy Fosse

## Kids on the Go Art & Soul Charity Gala Nov. 7 @ Westin Book Cadillac Photos by Christine M.J. Hathaway



Kathy and Doug Fry and Kristy Schena



Julie Gallant and Jennie Silva



**Marilyn and Paul Zimmer** 



Liberta Licata, Jan Davidson and Lillian Licata



**Chad and Kelley Hamilton** 



Joan Mossner and Danny Mahfet

### VIP Pancake Breakfast Nov. 7 @ The Parade Company

#### Photos by John Minnis



Tony Michaels, Dan Loepp, Gov. Rick Snyder and Mayor Mike Duggan



John Prost and Andrew Richner



The Rev. John Gardner, Cynthia Hutchison and Harry Kurtz



Dan West, John Prost, Keith Nichol, Tom Reaume, Don White, Rick DiBartolomeo, Ed Deeb and Dan Roma



**Bob Bury and Charles Burke** 



Sarah Bolton, Katie Szynkowski and Sharon Maier

### Special Kids Nov. 7 @ Assumption Cultural Center



**Gary Provenzano and Karen Lizza** 



Hugh O'Connor, Mary Wagner and Anne O'Connor



Gary Provenzano, Ahmed Ismail, Bruce Dall and Carrie Provenzano

### G.P. South Choir Booster Gala Nov. 15 @ Dossin Great Lakes Museum Photo

Mary and Dr. Brian Hunt



John and Elizabeth Bruno, Anne and John Leo



Grosse Pointe South Choir Boosters Gala Committee

### The Taste Nov. 15 @ Our Lady Star of the Sea School

#### Photos by John Minnis



Marie Brady, Sue Sheridan and Ty and Sheri Totte



Norm Heinrich, Amanda Shenouda and Ellie Heinrich



SOLT Order Brothers Mario Amore, Jeremy Davis and Brian Meldrum and Monsignor Gary Smetanka



Sylvia Maxey, Sherry Held and Toni Scully

Photos by Christine M.J. Hathaway



Peter and Valerie Dodenhoff and Bill and Joyce Johnston



**Ron and Evelyn Vitale** 

### Village Tree Lighting and Afterglow Nov. 21 @ The Village



John Shook, Mayor Dale Scrace and John Stevens



Susan Hartz, Don and Anne Berschback



Ann Rouse, Belle, Max Wilkinson and Breanna Candela



**Emily Scupholm and Hillary Butcher** 



Sandy MacMechan, Sgt. Eduardo Santillan and John Stevens



Kristen, Shannon and Pete Dame



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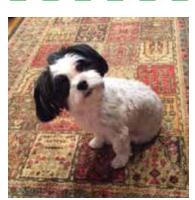
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Г

Foxy

Foxy is quite a character! She makes her home with Raymonia Dale.



# Molly May

Molly May is a 4-year-old Havanese. She loves the company of humans. She especially loves when her owners, Katie and Caroline Jeup, come home from school. She is a beloved member of the Jeup-Koch family.



# Vasili II and Theseus III

Vasili II and Theseus III bring "purrfect" joy to Bill and Tess
Flynn in the Farms.



# Mariah & Bruno

Cocker Spaniels Mariah, 8 years old, and Bruno, 4 years old, make their home with Frank Lorbach in Grosse Pointe Woods.



# In memory of Blues

Blues is survived by his sister Rhythm, half sister Jazzdog and humans Michelle and Chris Kauffold of Grosse Pointe Farms. Blues was adopted through the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society in 2002.



# Snoopy & Hunter

Snoopy and Hunter enjoying long walks around their neighborhood in Grosse Pointe Farms.

# People, parasites and pets

By Dr. Stephanie Bagwell

arasites are one of the more common problems veterinarians see in dogs and cats. Many of these parasites are considered zoonotic, which means they can infect humans as well as animals. Thankfully, most parasites can be easily prevented and treated with

routine veterinary examinations.

Intestinal parasites (worms) are commonly passed to puppies and kittens while nursing, which is why routine deworming is strongly recommended at



your pet's first visit to the veterinarian. Your veterinarian may also recommend a microscopic examination of a stool sample, as most internal parasites shed their eggs in fecal material. The CDC (Centers for Disease Control) recommends having this test done at least yearly to limit human exposure to possible parasites which pets may pick up from neighborhood animals or various wildlife.

Good hygiene is also very important to prevent the spread of parasites to humans; so be sure to encourage those involved in cleaning up after your pet (especially children) to wash their hands frequently and avoid placing their hands in or around the mouth. As always, consult with your doctor if you are concerned you may have picked up a parasite from your pet.

There are a variety of veterinary products available to help both prevent and treat the spread of intestinal parasites in both dogs and cats. The best way to ensure your family is protected is to have a discussion with your veterinarian about which medications are right for your pet based on individual circumstances.

Dr. Stephanie Bagwell, a 2014 graduate of Michigan State University, joined Harper Woods Veterinary Hospital in February of 2015.



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# Pointe Prose | a Grosse Pointe writers series

*Blackrock*, published by Barringer Publishing, features Laine Sullivan, a former NOVAS undercover operative and internationally known architectural designer, who comes out of retirement to take an assignment in Ireland riddled with secrets, money laundering, murder, hidden agendas and false identities.

Laine takes action when she accepts Miles Bourke's invitation to design a party room in his lighthouse tower on Blackrock Island. As she embarks on a promising new relationship with Bourke, she struggles with her past—and her quest for the truth in a covert world of espionage.



By Judy Lee Burke

**ONE** BLACKROCK ISLAND, IRELAND



he white glow from the Bell Jet Ranger strobe lights pierced the darkness. The blonde woman slid

into the pilot's seat, fastening the harness. Holding in the starter button, she engaged the helicopter's generator, slowly releasing it. After a minute, flipping switches on the instrument panel, she stared at the green lights illuminating the cockpit and completed the start sequence.

Placing her hands on the controls, she forced them into position. The whirling blades beat the air as the turbine whined to a high pitch for takeoff. The rotors thumped as the skids bounced on and off the landing circle, dirt flying. The dim light of the cockpit was silhouetted against the dark forest.

In one swift motion, the Irish peacekeeper's fist punched upward at a forward angle. "Halt!" He shouted, gripping the bullhorn with his other hand.

The woman stared directly at him from the cockpit. The skids scraped the tarmac as the helicopter lifted off.

"Prepare to fire on my command!" His troops lined up for the kill shot.

Kneeling, facing forward, weapons at the ready, men clad in black steadied their fifty caliber sniper rifles into their shoulders.

"Fire!"

A barrage of bullets riddled the target. The helicopter exploded, sending shards of metal in all directions as the bright orange flames scorched the black sky.

#### TWO

#### A WEEK EARLIER, MANHATTAN, NEW YORK

Laine Sullivan stared at the caller ID as the cell phone vibrated on the antique French desk. Outside her window, Central Park hummed with activity. She shoved the stack of architectural designs aside and logged into her laptop. She stashed the picture of her late husband John inside her desk drawer.

"Hello, Max," she said softly into the phone. "Haven't talked to you since John's accident." She pushed the speakerphone button and grabbed her pen on top of the classified document.

"Thanks for taking the call."

"You knew I would." The computer screen filled with images. Max's call was nothing but bad news. She had a year's worth of bad news since John's

Blackrock author Judy Lee Burke has wide publishing experience, including co-authoring a textbook and editing Simon and Schuster's Handbook for Writers. As a consultant, she revised Literature and the Writing Process for Prentice Hall. Her articles appear in Pointe Magazine, and her work was featured on CBS WWJ Newswatch during the filming of Clint Eastwood's Grand Torino. As a plein air painter, she painted the cover of her novel set in Ireland.

Submit your own work for publication by e-mailing Lauren McGregor at Lbeaver1@grossepointemagazine.com.

accident - she wanted her life before she got married, but that wasn't going to happen. This is the part that caught in her throat, shoving down what she really wanted to say to Max. Shoulders tight, eyes alert yet not seeing, she remembered the last assignment Max had sent her on. Smoke in her lungs, breath rushing out, cold, hard metal on her back as she was airlifted out. He'd make light of it, so she said nothing, staring at the laptop.

"You've read the file?" The man's voice from headquarters was hard, professional.

"Yes, but you already know that." She waited, watching the flurry of information flood her screen.

"I do," he said in a hard tone. "Got the written updates?"

"Yes." A photo of a man in a tailored suit filled her screen. A jockey stood close to him, engaged in conversation. They were pointing at a dark horse fitted for a race. She flipped open the document folder and gazed at the same photo inside - handsome, she thought. He wasn't too bad looking for a blonde - not really her type.

Max said, "That's Miles Bourke, thirty-five-year-old bachelor, privately educated, and one of the wealthiest thoroughbred racehorse and stud farm owners in Ireland and France."

"Young for all that," she said. Another image of him at a farm with thoroughbred horses filled her screen. She loved horses. Max knew it.

"He is as privileged as they come. The man to his right is his jockey at Lucre - his private racetrack in Blacksod on the west coast of Ireland."

"Well, fancy that - good looking horses, too."

"The one ready for the race is the multimillion-dollar winner Midnight Madness."

Fans in the background were waving programs and pointing at the horses on the track.

"Quite the state-of-the-art racetrack. Who builds something like that along a seashore?"

"Like I said - lots of money in the Bank of Ireland - a Euro billionaire. His buyers include sheiks, princes, international breeders, U. S. 'big boys' - you name it. But ... it's more involved than that. That's why I called you. "

"It can't be good. I told you I retired from all this." She stared at the horse, the man, and the racetrack.

"We've got a situation. I need you for an undercover operation in Ireland." "I'm not in that kind of business anymore - not since my husband's death."

"I know, but you were never discharged. And you owe me," he said in a firm tone.

"I know that, but I'm not ready. I don't know if I'll ever be ready again."

"You haven't been out that long - you're a natural. I need you to gather intel on money laundering and drug trading at the racetrack overseas. It's simply gathering the information and reporting back to me."

### THREE

### MANHATTAN

The phone rang and rang. Laine finally picked up. "No, Max, what about 'no' don't you understand?"

"Take a look at your laptop," he said in a gentle tone.

"Oh no!" she said in a loud voice.

A sleek brown thoroughbred racehorse was sprawled on its side on the racetrack - black, dead eyes staring out at her, white foam seeping from its nose and dripping onto the dirt. Its back knees were buckled under its belly while the front legs jutted out at odd angles. A jockey was dressed in full

bright colors. Dirty cheeks were streaked with tears as he knelt near the horse's head, rubbing his neck.

"The official verdict is 'milkshaking."

"What's that?"

"An energy boost injected through the horse's nostril before the race. Supposed to make them run faster."

"Like athletes on steroids?"

"Yes, but the effects are lethal."

"What kind of psycho would do that to a horse?" She saw the veins popping out on the horse's neck. Horrified, she scrolled down, removing the scene from her view.

"We don't know, but we want to find out. Horse was running in first place at the Kentucky Derby, until this happened. Never made the finish line and dropped dead in front of all the fans. Saudi Arabian Sheik Abdullah had a lot of money riding on that beauty. Bourke sold it to him, but he said he had no part in the injections. They are illegal."

"Someone wanted revenge. What else do you have?"

"Nothing. That's where you come in."

"Go on." She focused on the next photo of Miles angry, shouting at a man. Max was silent, paper rustling in the background. "Hold on."

She pulled out a pen and made notes. Maimed horses - she didn't know if she had the stomach for it. She attended charity events to protect horses and keep them safe from harm. This was sickening and too much to imagine.

She loved horses her whole life and even had a few. She couldn't stand any animal abuse. Max knew he had her with that photo - damn him. What was he doing?

"I said 'go on," she told him in a loud voice.

"Here it is. The update says same thing happened at the Abu Dhabi Irish Guinness Festival. It's an Arabian village atmosphere during race days. The Irish and the Emirati come together - over money, that is. A lot of money changes hands - a lot more than we've been led to believe. That horse really suffered."

"I bet it did."

"Here is where you come in - where NOVAS comes in. Since you've been gone, we now operate under contract for a private agency, National Operations Venture Advancement Systems."

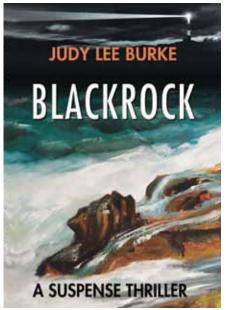
"A new title, but the same business?"

"Yes."

"And?"

"There was another milkshaking incident in Ireland. Bourke's horse was running in the United Arab Emirates Cup there."

"What happened?"



"His purebred Arabian horse stumbled to its knees, throwing the rider over his head in the last leg of the race. Horse was sweating and lathered behind the saddle, foam oozing out of its mouth. It buckled to the ground and rolled over, just as the jockey cleared his leg from under him."

She waited for him to continue, frowning.

"They shot him on the track in front of the crowd - same as the other incident. The racing committee was shocked. Fans were sickened. The Sheik Abdulla was beyond furious and wants revenge."

He liked telling it so much he ran his words together at mock speed. "What can we do?" she said. "What do you want me to do?" "NOVAS accepted the contract - unofficially. That's where you come in." "Why is that?" she said in a clipped tone. She slipped a loose dark hair

behind her ear. "Like I said, I'm not ready."

Laine looked at the other photos - the animal abuse lingering in her mind. Bourke, in jeans and a flannel shirt, was leaning against a wooden fence surrounding the racetrack. Behind him, horses ran along the dirt track, jockeys tight in their saddle. Off the track near the white stables, men flicking stopwatches shouted at the riders to speed up their time.

"You know the drill."

"I'm out of training."

"You're fine. We want you at Bourke's lighthouse on a remote island not far from the Irish mainland. It's fifteen minutes flying time from Blacksod. That's where you'll be staying and getting information for us."

"No. I'm not going to take any more assignments." Again, the injured horse loomed in her mind. She felt compelled to help, but what could she do? She hadn't been in the field in months.

He ignored her and went on. "It's the meeting place

for buying the horses."

A new photo popped up. "Who is the elderly couple on my screen?" They stood in front of a thatched-roof cottage.

"Bourke's seventy-year-old caretakers Eamon and his wife Patricia. They live in the lighthouse cottage on the island."

"It's isolated. What do you want from me, Max? You know I have a weak spot for horses." She remembered the old life, and she wanted it locked away. In New York she could do that - hide from her feelings.

From the aerial view she saw thick forests trailing along the black rock cliffs behind the cottage. The Atlantic was a rough, choppy sea of green surrounding the island. The cottage, lighthouse, and a helicopter pad were situated near the northwest forested area near the cliffs.

"I want you to get intel. You'll be undercover. Bourke knows you are an architectural designer, so it's perfect. Get information on what's going on with him and the horse racing. How you get it is up to you." His voice was hard. "We got Bourke's confirmation today. He hired you to redesign his party room in the lighthouse tower on Blackrock Island."

"No, Max."

"It's time."

"What are you talking about?" Laine said in an angry voice. "In case you've forgotten, I've been out of the business for over a year, since John's accident." "Call it what you want, but it was not an accident."

Blackrock is available for purchase at amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com. E-mail Judy Lee Burke at Judy@judyburke.com and visit her at www.judyburke.com.

# March

# Calendar

# 06 FRIDAY

- Sam B. and Jemile Ali playing at Cabbage Patch Saloon, 9 p.m. - 12 a.m.
- Karaoke Night at Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 21 and older, \$5 per person, 7-10:30 p.m.
- Youth Dance at Grosse Pointe War Memorial, \$18, 7:30-10 p.m.

- 07 SATURDAY The Jukes playing at Cabbage Patch Saloon, 8-11 p.m.
- CARE's 20th Annual Parenting Conference at MISD Conference Center in Clinton Township, \$40 per person, 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- · Behind the Scenes Tour at the Ford House, reservations required, \$15 per non-member, \$13 per member, \$22 to combine with regular house tour, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., arrive at 9:45 a.m. if adding regular house tour

# **O**8 SUNDAY

- · Just Between Us Chamber Soloists of Detroit at the War Memorial, brunch and private concert, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Brahms Cello Sonata at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church featuring Mario DiFiore, cello, and James Biery, piano, \$10, free for students under 25 with student ID, 3 p.m.

# **O9** MONDAY

• Hors d'oeuvres and Concert at the War Memorial, cabaret style event with cash bar, 7-10 p.m.

# **1O** TUESDAY

 Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours at Pure Barre Grosse Pointe, 5:30-7 p.m.

# 12 THURSDAY

· Grosse Pointe South Band and Orchestra Concert at Brownell Middle School, 7 p.m.

# **14** SATURDAY

- Momcat's Signing Academy's Second Saturdays Signing Story Time at Cabbage Patch Cafe and Catering on Kercheval, all ages welcome to learn sign language, free, 9:30-10 a.m.
- Motoring Mavericks at the Edsel &

Eleanor Ford House, ages 5-10, \$10 per child, \$10 per child member, 10 a.m.

- The Family Center presents LEGO Artists Challenge at Barnes Early Childhood Center, pre-K to 8th grade, \$10 per entry, rules and entry form at familycenterweb.org, 12-3 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society Adoption Day at Camp BowWow Training Center, 12-3 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Historical Society Open House at the Provencal-Weir House, La Belle Country Store open, house tour free of charge, 1-4 p.m.
- · Izzy's Second Saturday at the Provencal-Weir House, stuff and sew a Michigan Common Map Turtle, modest sewing skills needed, ages 7 and up, reservations must be made by Thursday, March 12 at (313) 884-7010, \$15 per member, \$20 per non-member, 1-3 p.m.

- 15 SUNDAY Behind the Scenes Tour at the Ford House, reservations required, \$15 per non-member, \$13 per member, \$22 to combine with regular house tour, 1-2:30 p.m., arrive at 11:45 a.m. if adding house tour
- Fast Women, Hot Plates: "She's in the Lead!" at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, \$35 per adult or \$90 for the 3-part series, 2-4 p.m.

# 17 TUESDAY - St. Patrick's Day

# 18 wednesday

· Grosse Pointe Historical Society presents a Bicknell Lecture at the Cook Schoolhouse, Randall Fogelman will present his new book, Detroit's Historic Eastern Market, 7:30 p.m.

# **19** THURSDAY

- The Family Center presents "Pick Two for Your Healthy Future" at SOC, choose two of three presentations: "Mindful Parenting," "Women and Heart News," and "Eat This, Not That," free, 6:30-9 p.m.
- Friends of the GPPL Classic Book Lecture Series in the Ewald Program Room, \$10 for non-members, 7 p.m.

# **21** SATURDAY

- · Ride. Strength. Stretch. to support Kids on the Go, \$5 donation for classes at Rock n Ride, 1:30-3 p.m., Pure Barre, 12:30-3 p.m., and Yoga Shelter, 2-3:30 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors Home &

Garden Expo at the War Memorial, free, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

• All Pointes Daddy-Daughter Dance, sponsored by Beaumont, in the Grosse Pointe South gym, ages 12 and under, to register, call (313) 822-2812 ext. 201, \$8 per person, includes appetizers and dessert, 7-9 p.m.

# 22 SUNDAY

Fast Women, Hot Plates: "A Woman's Place" at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, \$35 per adult or \$90 for the 3-part series, 2-4 p.m.

24 TUESDAY • Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce Business Before Hours at Cornwall Bakery, 8-9 a.m.

25 WEDNESDAY • Spring Wine Dinner at Ardmore Park Place, limited to 40, 7-10 p.m.

# **26** THURSDAY

• Wayne State University presents ENGAGE - World's largest student investment conference in 2015, at COBO Center, through March 27, register at engage. wayne.edu/registration/index.php

# 28 SATURDAY

- · Bird Walks on the Ford House grounds, guided bird watching and hot drinks afterward, \$7, 7:30 a.m.
- Grosse Pointe Farms Easter Egg Hunt at Pier Park, bring your basket and hunt for candy filled eggs, don't forget your camera for pictures with the Easter Bunny, arrive by 9:45 a.m.
- Grosse Pointe Shores Easter Egg Hunt at Municipal Park, 10 a.m.
- Easter Egg Painting at the War Memorial for parents and children, \$30 per adult/ child pair, \$15 per child, 10-11:30 a.m.
- Grosse Pointe Woods Egg Hunt at Lake Front Park, includes visit with the Easter Bunny (bring your camera!), egg hunt, treat bag and petting zoo, registration required, \$4 per Woods child, 11 a.m.
- Driving Kit Sensations at the Ford House, play-based activities, recommended for children ages 6-12, \$10 per child, \$8 per child member, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Behind the Scenes Tour at the Ford

House, reservations required, \$15 per non-member, \$13 per member, \$22 to combine with regular house tour, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., arrive at 9:45 a.m. if adding regular house tour

· Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society Adoption Day at Camp BowWow Training Center, 12-3 p.m.

- 29 SATURDAY Brunch with the Easter Bunny at the War Memorial, \$19, reservations required at (313) 881-7511, 10:30 a.m.
- Fast Women, Hot Plates: "Teen Takeover" at the Ford House, \$35 per adult or \$90 for the 3-part series, 2-4 p.m.

# **O1** WEDNESDAY

- Windmill Pointe Park Egg Scramble, visit with the Easter Bunny (bring your camera!), hunt for eggs, listen to the Merry Music Maker, enjoy the petting zoo, ages 8 and under, tickets available at Windmill Pointe Park gatehouse, \$6 per child, 4:30 p.m.
- · Grosse Pointe North Spring Concert in the Brownell Auditorium, 7 p.m.

# **05** SUNDAY - Easter

# 11 SATURDAY

- · Momcat's Signing Academy's Second Saturdays Signing Story Time at Cabbage Patch Cafe and Catering on Kercheval, all ages welcome to learn sign language, free, 9:30-10 a.m.
- · Behind the Scenes Tour at the Ford House, reservations required, \$15 per non-member, \$13 per member, \$22 to combine with regular house tour, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., arrive at 9:45 a.m. if adding regular house tour
- · Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society Adoption Day at Camp BowWow Training Center, 12-3 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Historical Society Open House at the Provencal-Weir House, La Belle Country Store open, house tour free of charge, 1-4 p.m.
- Izzy's Second Saturday at the Provencal-Weir House, create a spring fimo clay garland with eggs, chicks, baskets, tulips and bunnies, ages 6 and up, reservations

must be made by Thursday, April 9 at (313) 884-7010, \$15 per member, \$20 per nonmember, 1-3 p.m.

# 12 SUNDAY

 Grosse Pointe Chamber Music at the War Memorial, \$35 membership fee, \$14 at the door, 2:30-5 p.m.

# 14 TUESDAY

· Celebrate Library Week with morning donuts at all GPPL branches

15 WEDNESDAY • Grosse Pointe Historical Society presents a Bicknell Lecture at the Cook Schoolhouse, Mark Hoffman will present his latest book, My Brave Mechanics: The First Michigan Engineers and Their Civil War, 7:30 p.m.

# 16 THURSDAY

- · Celebrate Library Week with morning donuts at all GPPL branches
- Spring Luncheon at the War Memorial, \$20, call (313) 881-7511 to register, 12 p.m.

17 FRIDAY • Youth Dance at the War Memorial, \$18, 7:30-10 p.m.

# 18 SATURDAY

- Bird Walks on the Ford House grounds, guided bird watching and hot drinks afterward, \$7, 7:30 a.m.
- One Day Marriage Seminar "The Marriage You've Always Wanted" with Dr. Gary Chapman at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, purchase tickets online at cultivatinghealthyfamilies.com or at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, \$50 per couple,
- \$25 per person, 9 a.m. 3:30 p.m.
- Mom-to-Mom Sale at the War Memorial, \$2, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

# 19 SUNDAY

• Behind the Scenes Tour at the Ford House, reservations required, \$15 per non-member, \$13 per member, \$22 to combine with regular house tour, 1-2:30 p.m., arrive at 11:45 a.m. if adding house tour

# Calendar

## 22 WEDNESDAY

• Friends of the Grosse Pointe Public Library present Peggy's Picks Book Talk in the Woods Program Room, 7 p.m.

- 23 THURSDAY Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours at Real Estate in the Pointes, 5:30-7 p.m.
- Friends of the GPPL present Classic Books Lecture Series in the Ewald Program Room, \$10 for non-members, 7 p.m.
- Tau Beta Spring Market, Apr. 23-25, visit taubeta.org for information

24 FRIDAY • Grosse Pointe Restaurant Week through May 2, see page 56 for more information

- 25 SATURDAY Behind the Scenes Tour at the Ford House, reservations required, \$15 per non-member, \$13 per member, \$22 to combine with regular house tour, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., arrive at 9:45 a.m. if adding regular house tour
- · Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society Adoption Day at Camp BowWow Training Center, 12-3 p.m.

# 26 SUNDAY

• Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra at the War Memorial, \$15 general ticket, \$12 senior ticket, free to students, 7-10 p.m.

# 28 TUESDAY

- The Family Center presents Multi-Presentation Night at the Grosse Pointe Academy Lake Shore Building, choose between two double presentations, one on Alzheimer's and dementia, and the other on attention disorders and sleep disorders, free, 6:30-8 p.m.
- The Family Center presents "Kindergarten Essentials: Ensuring a Successful Transition for Your Child" at Barnes Early Childhood Center, 7 p.m.

29 WEDNESDAY • Birmingham Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra and Kurt Nikkanen, violin, at the War Memorial, 7-10 p.m.

# *Garden for the Blind* stories of hardship and reconciliation

By Carrie Cunningham

rosse Pointer Kelly Fordon has authored a tremendous, beautifully written book, *Garden for the Blind*, a collection of short stories that capture the paradox of living in and around Detroit.

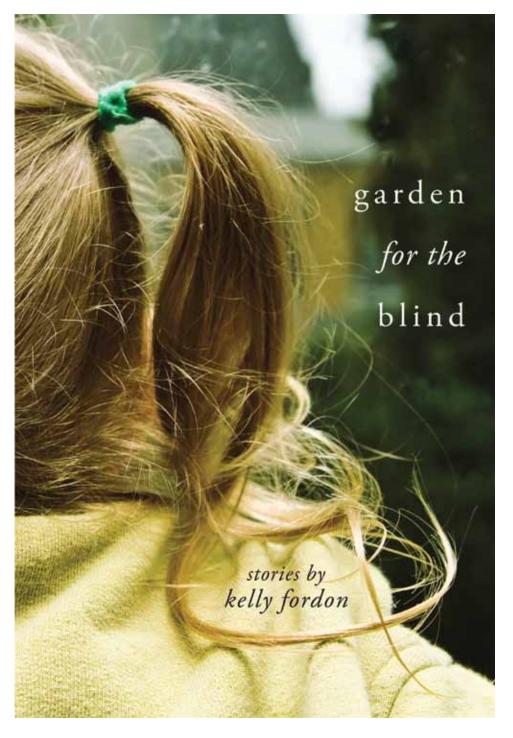
Themes of privilege and prejudice that divide Detroit and its suburbs bring to life the vignettes in a manner that is both disconcerting and illuminating. The stories are connected across multiple generations.

Fordon, a former journalist for National Geographic and NPR, has always loved creative writing. Her favorite short story writer is Alice Munro, whom she favors for the depth of her characters, their personal epiphanies and the recurring theme of how important it is to savor the goodness in life even when surrounded by unfeeling, hurtful dialogues.

*Garden for the Blind* is a Munroesque book. Hinged on a privileged character named Alice Townley, who faces personal hardship from the outset, the stories trace her family and acquaintances from 1974 to 2012. Alice's journey is rife with mistakes for which she has no remorse for the damage she causes.

In one story, she and a friend pin a crime on a poor, innocent black kid from Detroit who attends their private school on a scholarship. He is expelled. *The Garden for the Blind* metaphor is evident here: How sad it is that the lushness and decency in life, like a fecund garden, can be thwarted with unbending and oblivious privilege.

The stories are told from different perspectives, namely first person



and omniscient narrators. Other characters dazzle, giving the work a rich portrayal of the often-despairing contours of life. Stories of a World War II veteran struggling with PTSD and the assault of a Buddhist monk are among the limned adversities.

*Garden for the Blind* is a mustread for contemporary society, a kaleidoscope of the human condition. Like Munro, Fordon paints with words, rather than scolds, her message of confronting apathy and reaching for empathy. She reveals the blindness of inflexible individuals who by their revealed rigidity prompt others to transform.

Fordon will present *Garden for the Blind* — debuting April 1 by Wayne State University Press — Wed., April 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the Grosse Pointe Public Library's Ewald Branch. A book signing will follow. The program is free of charge, but seating is limited. Register online at www.gp.lib.mi.us or call (313) 343-2074 ext. 222.







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# Meet Andrew

Photo by Ginny O. Photography

#### When and why did you move from Grosse Pointe?

We left Grosse Pointe when we got married. I had just started a job in Washington, D.C. (I always dreamed of working in D.C.) and it was such an exciting way to start our new life together. When the kids came along we decided that – after about 7 years in the D.C. area - we wanted to move somewhere a little more family friendly and we quickly learned we really liked the Richmond area.

#### What do you miss most about living in Grosse Pointe?

We both still love the Pointes, the community, the parks, the architecture of the homes, we certainly miss all of those. It's obviously a great place to raise a family and it gave us a wonderful start when we were growing up. We are proud to be from Michigan generally and Grosse Pointe Park in particular.

#### What is your favorite thing about living in Richmond?

Downtown Richmond obviously has an incredibly rich history and a lot of very unique neighborhoods and entertainment districts. The area we live in was once a resort town for the people of Richmond after the Civil War and you run into historical markers pretty much at every turn. Our area has great community programs, sports programs and lots of opportunities for the whole family to do fun things. Most importantly, the schools here are wonderful.

What accomplishment are you most proud of?

I think I am most proud that we have been able to live in some great places, give our children access to a lot of fun and enriching opportunities all while enjoying a pretty unique career. It's simple, but a happy, healthy family is all that really matters.

Name	Andrew Delmege
Age	33
City	Bon Air, Virginia

**Occupation** Regional development officer for a public policy organization

# Andrew's **Facts**

Grosse Pointe hometown Grosse Pointe Park Years lived in Grosse Pointe

23

#### **Grosse Pointe schools attended**

Both my wife and I attended Jack and Jill Nursery School (now Atwater in the Park), Defer, Pierce and Grosse Pointe South. I was the class of 1999 and she was the class of 2000.

#### College

Wayne State University for my undergrad (political science) and George Mason University for my masters (public policy)

# About Andrew

"My wife Natalie and I grew up in Grosse Pointe Park on the same street – we even went to the same preschool. Even though we knew several members of each other's families growing up, we never met in person until a high school trip to Washington, D.C. when I was a senior and she was a junior. We started dating that summer and the rest is history."

Andrew and Natalie are parents to Abigail, 5, and Thomas, 3. A diehard Tigers and Lions fan, Andrew enjoys playing sports and coaching his children. He also harbors a lifelong love of history, particularly American history.

Andrew and Natalie enjoy working on their Richmond home, where they have lived for nearly two years.





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